



Bruce Beehler / Conservation International

TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



WOODLAND PARK ZOO







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BACKGROUND

THE TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM FOSTERS WILDLIFE AND HABITAT CONSERVATION AND SUPPORTS LOCAL COMMUNITY LIVELIHOODS IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA THROUGH GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS, LAND PROTECTION, AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH.

The Tree Kangaroo Conservation Program (TKCP) is partnering with local landowners on the Huon Peninsula in Papua New Guinea (PNG) to create and manage the country's first Conservation Area encompassing over 150,000 acres of cloud forest and Matschie's tree kangaroo habitat. TKCP works within the YUS Local Level Government in Morobe Province, PNG. YUS stands for the three main watersheds in the area: Yopno, Uruwa, and Som. The population of YUS is approximately 10,000 with over 35 villages. The local people own all of the land in the YUS area, 150,000 acres of which was pledged to the Conservation Area for protection. The people of YUS are subsistence farmers and hunters who rely on the land and understand the importance of protecting the forest and wildlife. The YUS Conservation Area (CA) extends from sea level to 4,000-meter mountain

ranges, thus preserving a complete altitudinal spectrum of Huon Peninsula habitats free from resource extraction. The Matschie's tree kangaroo (*Dendrolagus matschiei*), which is endemic to the region and has important cultural significance for the local indigenous people, serves as a flagship species for the program. In addition to conservation and research, TKCP is establishing a Community Based Organization within Papua New Guinea to manage the Conservation Area. The ongoing community improvement efforts include education projects and scholarships as well as an expanding healthcare initiative in villages called "Healthy Village, Healthy Forests". All of these components include a high degree of capacity building for Papua New Guineans, including PNG university students, village research assistants, and members of the YUS community.

PROGRAM GOALS:

1. **Create the first officially recognized Conservation Area (CA) on the Huon Peninsula in Papua New Guinea.**
2. **Establish a Community-Based Organization (CBO) that provides long-term management for the CA and improves the livelihood opportunities of local communities.**
3. **Support long-term management and financial sustainability of the CBO.**
4. **Facilitate ecological and social monitoring of the CA and promote scientific research.**
5. **Build local capacity to address conservation, education, healthcare, and other community needs.**
6. **Disseminate lessons learned through a global network to support community-based conservation in Papua New Guinea and act as a model for other conservation programs.**

TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM STAFF



DR. LISA DABEK
TKCP Director and Director
of Field Conservation at
Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle,
Washington, USA.



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SUE TALLARICO
Capacity Building &
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RUBY YAMUNA
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Coordinator in Lae,
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GABRIEL POROLAK
Research & Conservation
Coordinator in Lae, Papua
New Guinea.



KARAU KUNA, JR.
Mapping Coordinator in
Lae, Papua New Guinea.

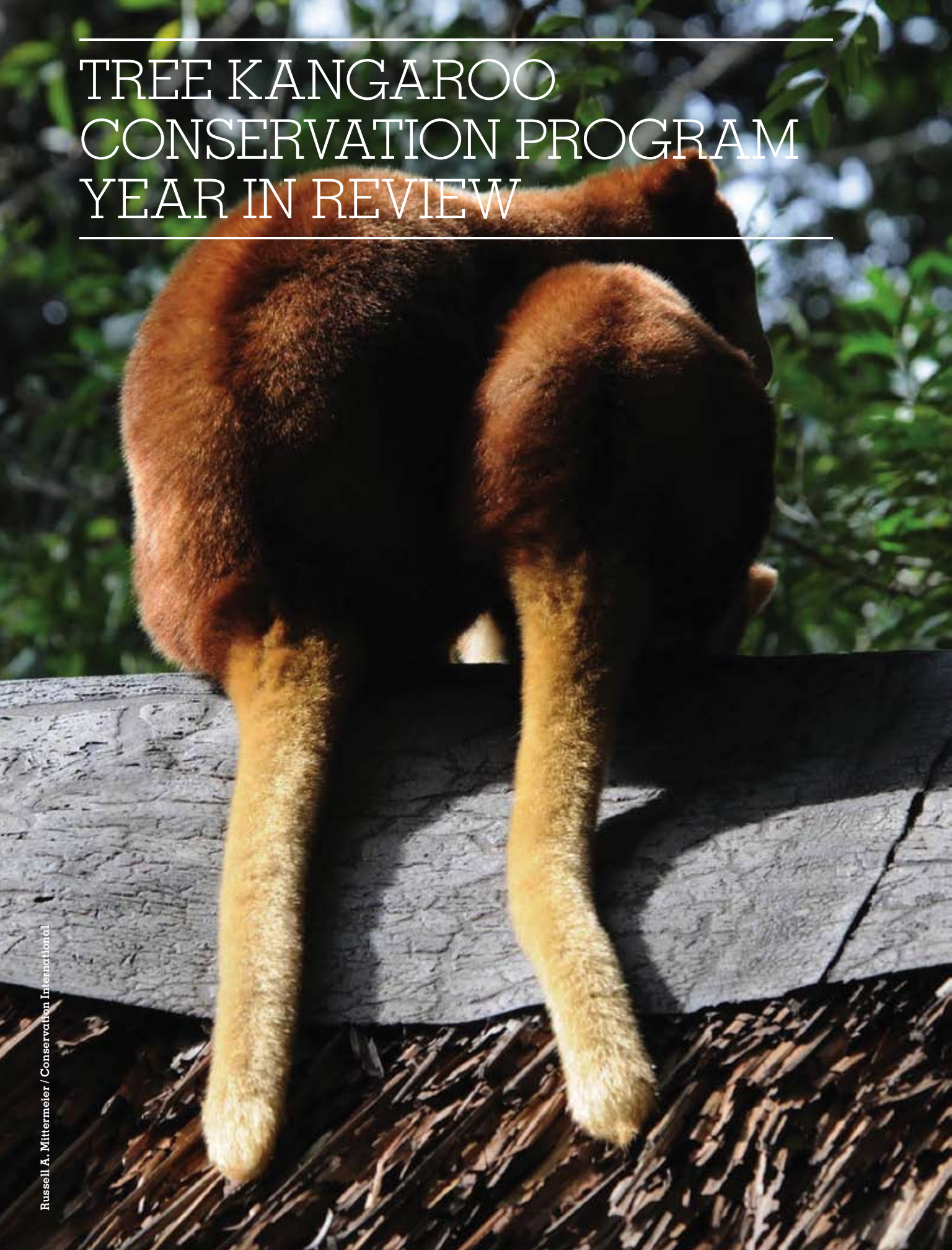


DANNY SAMANDINGKE
Education Coordinator,
Teptep village, Papua
New Guinea



DONO OGATE
Conservation Officer for
Uruwa, Yawan village,
Papua New Guinea.

TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM YEAR IN REVIEW



HIGHLIGHTS OF 2008

- » Papua New Guinea National Government approves the YUS Conservation Area, officially protecting **over 150,000 acres of tropical forest and tree kangaroo habitat.**
- » TKCP staff works with local landowners to start creation of the YUS Conservation Organization, a community-based organization tasked with managing the protected area, healthcare and education projects, and capacity building in YUS villages.
- » Woodland Park Zoo and Conservation International partner to ensure long term funding for management of the YUS Conservation Area via a Conservation Trust.
- » TKCP Education Coordinator, Danny Samandingke of Teptep Village in YUS, graduates from the University of Goroka, PNG with a Bachelor's of Education and assumes full responsibility as the Education Coordinator.
- » TKCP Research & Conservation Coordinator in PNG, Gabriel Porolak, completes his Master's thesis on tree kangaroo home range and habitat use from James Cook University in Australia.
- » Three YUS students graduate from Balob Teachers College in Lae, PNG as part of the TKCP Teacher Scholarship Program in collaboration with the YUS LLG, and are assigned to teaching positions at YUS village schools.
- » Health patrols are conducted in all three regions of YUS — Yopno, Uruwa and Som, with Village Birth Attendant (midwife) training completed in Yawan village.
- » TKCP staff works with community representatives to start the YUS Village Library Initiative, with the goal of establishing libraries in each YUS village primary school.
- » Ruby Yamuna is hired as PNG Program Coordinator, officially opening a TKCP office in Lae, PNG.
- » Seattle-based TKCP Coordinator Susan O'Neil is selected as a Kinship Conservation Fellow in 2008.
- » Drs. Russ Mittermeier, President, and Bruce Beehler, Senior Research Scientist, of Conservation International visit the Wasaunon field site and Yawan Village.
- » German Development Bank representatives visit TKCP and YUS villages.
- » Exclusive WPZ-CI event featuring the TKCP Conservation Trust and Pulitzer Prize-Winning author and scientist Dr. Jared Diamond is held in Seattle, Washington.



READ ON FOR DETAILS ABOUT THESE 2008 HIGHLIGHTS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

CONSERVATION



YUS village and landscape of YUS Conservation Area

YUS CONSERVATION AREA APPROVED BY PNG GOVERNMENT

After over a decade of working with PNG officials at the local, provincial and national level, and following all steps of the Conservation Areas Act of 1978, TKCP, Conservatin International, the Department of Environment & Conservation and the people of YUS finally succeeded in gaining official approval of the YUS Conservation Area (CA). Approval by the Ministers who make up the PNG National Executive Committee was finalized during their last meeting of 2008. The YUS CA passed the governing body with firm support. The people of YUS are incredibly proud of their conservation success and of being the first in PNG to create a CA. TKCP is now able to move forward with helping the YUS community in the next steps of managing and monitoring the new protected area. The Attorney General signed the YUS Conservation Area into the PNG National Gazette on January 9, 2009.

While Papua New Guinea has other types of protected areas, mostly Wildlife Management Areas, and a few national parks, the Conservation Areas Act of 1978 allows for the highest form of protection available in the country. Yet until now, this Act had never been utilized in PNG. Under the Act, both wildlife and habitat are protected. TKCP worked with the PNG Department of Environment & Conservation, CI, the Morobe Provincial government, the Minister for the Environment, and numerous other partners and advisors in PNG on gaining final approval through the national government of PNG. Because the land remains in the ownership of the local people, stewardship and management of the YUS Conservation Area lies in the hands of the YUS community with TKCP as an active partner and participant. The YUS community and TKCP are devising the regulations and management structure for enforcing the protection of the area at the local level. Through

gazettal on national maps, corporations and prospectors will know that this area is off-limits to large scale extraction such as logging and mining. CI's Global Conservation Fund (GCF) has generously supported this work since 2002 which allowed TKCP to successfully take the time needed to work with the YUS community to create a sustainable and new type of protected area in PNG.

As the first designation in the country under the Conservation Areas Act, the YUS CA will serve as a model for future conservation efforts in PNG. In collaboration with the PNG Department of Environment & Conservation and CI, TKCP will help other PNG communities and non-governmental organizations by creating a step-by-step guide for the establishment of a Conservation Area. We hope that our work in forging this new ground will assist others and speed the process to protect additional forests and other habitat throughout PNG.



Toby Ross working with community

YUS LANDOWNER WORKSHOP

In March, 2008, TKCP staff Toby Ross, Karau Kuna, Susan O'Neil, and Sue Tallarico worked with Arthur Ganubella of the PNG Department of Environment & Conservation, and Kepslok Kumilgo of Conservation International-PNG to hold a Landowner Workshop in Isan village in YUS. The purpose of the workshop was to draft the YUS Conservation Area Management Plan, which will define the rules, regulations and enforcement structure for the YUS Conservation Area (CA). The draft plan must be approved by all landowners who have pledged their land to the CA as well as the PNG Minister for Environment & Conservation. TKCP will continue to draft and revise the plan with input from landowners in 2009.

The March workshop also served as a forum for finalizing the Indigenous Maps of YUS. The Indigenous Mapping project is a collaboration with Mac Chapin

of the Center for the Support of Native Lands in Washington, D.C. with funding from the National Geographic Society. The purpose of the project is to document culturally and biologically significant landmarks within YUS according to the landowners and villagers using traditional language and symbols. Landowners edited and added information to the current maps for each region of YUS (Yopno, Uruwa and Som). These were later digitized into a Geographic Information System and edited by Wycliffe Antonio and staff at the University of Technology in Lae, PNG. The last round of changes made to the maps at the workshop in Isan will be formatted with the help of cartographers at Conservation International's Atherton, Australia office. The final maps will be printed and distributed throughout YUS in 2009.

AN EXAMPLE OF ONE OF THE RULES & ASSOCIATED FINE

Tok Pisin: I tambu long kukim ol bus insait long CA.

English: It is illegal to light forest fires within the CA.

Fine: K200.00 (~US\$80.00).



Landowners presenting management plan ideas

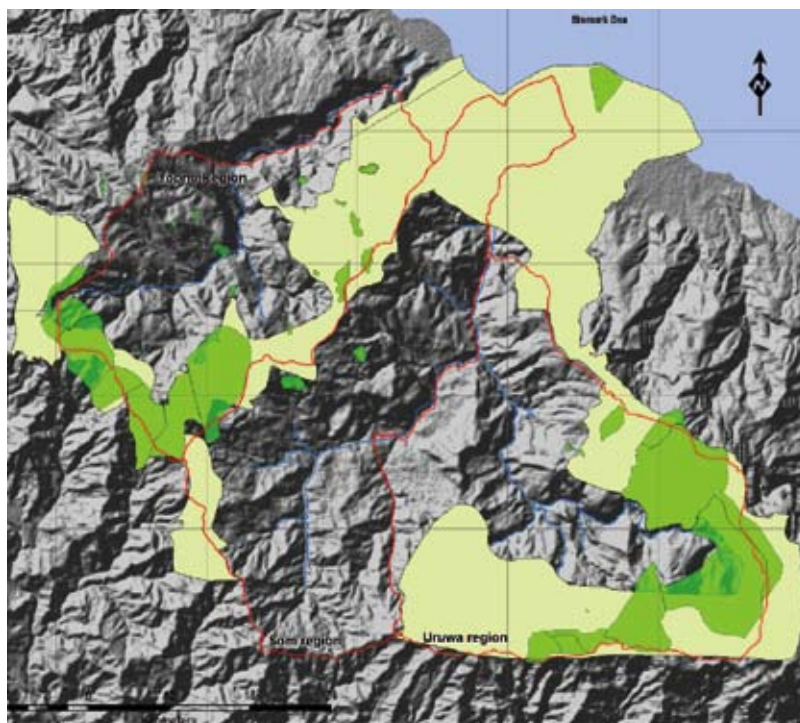


Arthur Ganubella of DEC and Kepslok Kumilgo of CI



Landowner Workshop participants — Isan village

MAPPING THE YUS CONSERVATION AREA



■ Pledged Land Parcels Mapped to Date
 / Yopno, Uruwa, Som Region Boundaries

The core protected area of the YUS Conservation Area is an aggregate of smaller parcels of land pledged by the clans of YUS. The pledged lands are typically pristine forest away from villages, former hunting grounds, and some areas that were historically “tambu” (or taboo – not hunted or logged) by the landowners’ ancestors. While the outside boundary of the YUS CA has been mapped, Karau Kuna Jr, TKCP Mapping Coordinator, is responsible for using GIS technology to map all of the individual parcels that make up the 150,000 plus acres (76,000 hectares) of the protected area. Kuna trains the landowners on

mapping techniques and together they delineate the boundaries of the pledged land and document evidence of key wildlife species.

In 2008, Kuna and YUS landowners mapped 786 hectares (14 land parcels) of land in the YUS Conservation Area (see map). When added onto the existing area that has been mapped in previous years, these new land parcels bring the total mapped area to 21,666 hectares, or about one third of the YUS Conservation Area. In 2009, TKCP will hire trained YUS mapping assistants to work with Kuna and expedite the mapping process.

FUEL WOOD ALTERNATIVES

With initial funding from the U.S. Association for Zoological Horticulture, TKCP began the first steps of a project aimed at reducing the amount of primary (and secondary) forest that is cut and harvested for heating homes, cooking, and building within the villages of YUS. The first step was to conduct surveys throughout YUS to determine how much wood villagers harvest and if they are interested in setting up fast growing tree plots on their land to reduce the impact on the forest. During the Landowner Workshop in Isan village, TKCP staff conducted surveys with landowners from each region of YUS to gather this information. David Selk, Horticulturalist at Woodland Park Zoo, compiled the initial surveys and found that there was great community interest in participating in a fast-growing fuel wood project. Some interviewees provided samples of the trees that they preferentially choose in the forest for cooking (slow burning) and building (rot resistant). This pilot research was critical to determining if this is a worthwhile project for TKCP to undertake in 2009. The surveys will continue throughout YUS with landowners from the workshop conducting additional surveys in their villages. In 2009, TKCP will continue to research species, work with partner organizations conducting similar work, and implement test pilot plots for fast-growing fuel wood in YUS.

RESEARCH



Gabriel in the field for tree kangaroo home range study
Andrew Krockenberger / James Cook University

TREE KANGAROO HOME RANGE & HABITAT USE

In July of 2008 TKCP Research & Conservation Coordinator Gabriel Porolak defended his thesis "Home range of the Huon tree kangaroo, *Dendrolagus matschiei*, in cloud forest on the Huon Peninsula, PNG" to an audience at James Cook University made up of his advisors, Drs. Andrew Krockenberger and Lisa Dabek, fellow students, and TKCP staff. Porolak is now in Lae, PNG and working full-time as the TKCP Research & Conservation Coordinator. His many seasons in the field and compiling and analyzing years of radio tracking data are a great success for him personally and for TKCP. This information will be used to inform management of the YUS Conservation Area and expand knowledge of Matschie's (or Huon) tree kangaroo biology and ecology.

Porolak found that the Huon tree kangaroo has the largest home range size when compared to other studied tree kangaroo species. There are three major factors attributed to the home range size of *D. matschiei* including hunting practices, loss of habitat and the effects of altitude on plant productivity. Hunting tree kangaroos for food and ceremonial reasons, as practiced traditionally in New Guinea, has exerted pressures on tree kangaroo populations and confined higher-density

populations to sparsely populated areas. Even in areas with low hunting pressure, such as the Wasaunon study site where TKCP and Porolak collected data, hunting may have depressed the population below the potential carrying capacity of the habitat thereby resulting in larger home ranges. Loss of habitat has not historically been a major threat to this species, but with increasing human population and extraction of forest resources it is increasingly becoming a threat. Fragmentation and loss of habitat may also influence tree kangaroo home range size by changing the distribution of crucial resources in the environment. Establishing current habitat and spatial requirements of tree kangaroos is a crucial part of protecting them from the emerging threat of habitat loss, allowing better assessment of the minimum size of sustainable conservation reserves and the size of tree kangaroo populations within them.

The altitudinal/temperature effect on plant productivity is another factor that may explain the large home range size of the Huon tree kangaroos. Low plant productivity at low temperatures associated with the high altitude of the study site could force the Huon tree kangaroo to maintain large home ranges in order to satisfy their nutritional requirements.

Porolak's tree kangaroo home range research was funded in part by the National Geographic Society's Committee on Research and Exploration. In 2008 TKCP staff worked with the Remote Sensing team at the National Geographic Society (NGS) to plan a study of tree kangaroo behavior in the forest canopy. Using a Crittercam® the animals' movements, interactions, and views of the forest from the animal's perspective are to be captured on video and film. Thanks to partial funding from the NGS Waitt Grant, the team will test the technology on a captive animal and hope to deploy the technology in the field on a wild tree kangaroo in 2009.



Lisa Dabek, Gabriel Porolak, and Andrew Krockenberger in the field



Core home range of eight female tree kangaroos at Wasaunon field site

TREE KANGAROO GENETICS

In the US, collaborating scientist T.J. McGreevy continued his work as a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Rhode Island. Under the direction of Drs. Tom Husband and Lisa Dabek, McGreevy published his master's thesis in *Zoo Biology* on the genetic diversity of AZA and wild tree kangaroos. McGreevy *et al.* found that analysis of the smaller of two genomes – mitochondrial rather than nuclear DNA, reveals that

captive tree kangaroos do not have as much genetic variation as wild tree kangaroos. For his Ph.D. project McGreevy developed genetic markers to measure the nuclear DNA diversity of captive and wild tree kangaroos. McGreevy and volunteer Rand Herron have also developed and tested the efficacy of a genetic test to determine the species of origin of wild collected fecal

samples. The genetic identification test they developed reduced the visual misidentification rate of identifying tree kangaroo fecal samples which will, in turn, greatly reduce the cost and amount of time required to obtain genetic samples from wild tree kangaroos during TKCP's field work in the YUS Conservation Area. In 2009 McGreevy plans to complete his Ph.D.

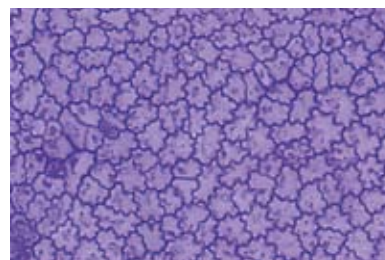
TREE KANGAROO FEEDING ECOLOGY

The tree kangaroo feeding ecology study made progress in 2008 with Patti Valella transferring her Ph.D. program from the University of Denver to Texas State University to work with Dr. Gary Upchurch, a paleobotanist in the Department of Biology. Valella uses the modified techniques of paleobotanists, who extract fossil plants from rock, to study plant fragments in tree kangaroo fecal pellets. Once the undigested plant fragments are extracted from the pellet, she can compare them to her reference collection to determine what plants the tree kangaroos are eating. In 2008 she continued to prepare the reference slide collection of known plant species and began work on a classification system to identifying unknown fragments.

In August 2008, Valella participated in the Ecological Society of America annual meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin by presenting a poster of her research methods. 2009 will bring collaborations with the Botanical Research Institute of Texas, involved with biodiversity and conservation work in New Guinea, and with the Dallas World Aquarium who house Matschie's tree kangaroos for hands-on work with captive animals. She will continue to work on a database of Papua New Guinea plant cuticle, which could be used for future studies of feeding ecology in other species.




Forest plants typically eaten by tree kangaroos



***Tasmannia piperita* cuticle 200x_Used for feeding ecology study**

COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION



In 2008 TKCP worked with the YUS community to begin formal establishment of a Community-Based Organization with an office in Lae, PNG. To be called the **YUS Conservation Organization (YUS CO)** this important organization will be responsible for managing the YUS Conservation Area and overseeing community projects in health and education.

TKCP worked closely with Conservation International staff and the local YUS community to create the constitution for the YUS CO. Local communities reviewed a draft copy of the constitution in March. TKCP began the registration of the YUS CO with the PNG National Government in 2008.

During the registration process, the YUS community began to nominate representatives to participate in the YUS CO committees. These committees, including the Education Committee, Conservation Committee, and Health Committee, will direct projects at the community level and advise the YUS CO staff

In April 2008, the TKCP opened a new office in Lae, which is run by the PNG Program Coordinator Ruby Yamuna. Yamuna has previously worked with World Wildlife Fund-PNG and Mama Graun in Port Moresby, PNG; she started with TKCP in April 2008. Mapping Coordinator Karau Kuna, Conservation & Research

Coordinator Gabriel Porolak, and Education Coordinator Danny Samandingke will also use the office when they are not in the field in YUS. TKCP will continue to hire staff for the YUS CO in 2009 and work with the committees to ensure continued success in health, education and conservation projects in YUS.

TKCP is also working to establish field offices in each of the three regions of YUS — Yopno, Uruwa and Som — in 2009. With an office in Lae and in the three regions of YUS, each outfitted with radios and solar panels, communication and coordination with local communities will be greatly improved.

EDUCATION

TKCP continues to collaborate closely with village school headmasters, teachers, local leaders and villagers to improve education in YUS village schools. The TKCP Education Project provides materials and teacher training to local communities as well as general education supplies such as paper, chalk, pencils, art supplies, science kits, and library books. Teachers are invited to attend annual education workshops where they receive training, conservation education, and curricula. The current focus on the PNG National Reform Curriculum ensures local teachers and students are meeting national standards.

In November 2008, TKCP held two, five-day **Teacher Workshops** in Bungawat Village and Keweng Village respectively. The purpose of the workshops was to assist local village teachers to create hands-on, relevant classroom lessons that are integrated with all subjects taught in YUS village schools and reflect the new national standards. During the workshops, teachers created lessons while guided by TKCP staff. These lessons will be combined into a booklet that will then be distributed to all teachers in YUS schools.

As part of the 2008 workshops, a needs assessment was conducted with representatives from each primary school in YUS. TKCP will work with the schools as well as the Provincial and District Education Department to address these needs in the upcoming years.



Toby Ross and Sue Tallarico present library books to school and headmaster

Seven primary schools in YUS received library books in 2008. Air Niugini shipped 26 boxes of used books donated by school children in Cairns, Australia to Lae, PNG at no cost. These donated books marked the start of TKCP's **Village Library Initiative**. The aim of the initiative is to establish small, village-based libraries in each of the seven YUS Primary schools for use by school children and the local community. TKCP is appreciative of the support and assistance by Air Niugini.

In December 2008, three YUS students who were sponsored by TKCP's **Teacher Scholarships** graduated from Balob Teachers College and were placed in YUS schools for the 2009 school year. Three more students from YUS have been selected for sponsorship by TKCP to attend Balob Teachers College in 2009.

On June 5, 2008, TKCP held an annual **World Environment Day Essay and Logo Contest** in YUS. Students from the YUS community wrote poems and essays under the theme "What Conservation Means to Me and My Community". They also created drawings that will be used in creating a logo to represent the YUS Conservation Organization.

Thanks to a 2008 grant from Shared Earth Foundation, TKCP education and management staff will be able to visit the Hutan / Kinabatangan Orangutan Conservation Program (KOCP) in Sabah, Malaysia in 2009. This trip will be Education Coordinator Danny Samandingke's first visit outside of PNG. KOCP and TKCP share similar goals and structure and have greatly benefited from mutual information exchange over the past several years. The 2009 trip follows up on a valuable 2007 **Conservation Education Exchange** in which KOCP staff visited TKCP in Papua New Guinea.



Teachers of Bungawat School at 2008 Teacher Workshop



Winners of 2008 conservation essay and logo competitions



YUS Conservation Organization logo competition entries

CONGRATULATIONS



Congratulations to TKCP Education Coordinator Danny Samandingke in completing his Bachelors degree at the University of Goroka, PNG. Danny is now working full-time as the TKCP Education Coordinator. Thanks to many zoos, foundations, and individuals who helped TKCP to sponsor Danny as he gained critical skills and built on his experience for leading the Education Project in YUS.



The communities in the most remote areas of PNG, including the YUS LLG where TKCP conducts its work, receive few health services and supplies from the PNG government. For this reason, TKCP has been collaborating with the National, Provincial and District level Health Departments in creating the TKCP Health Project — **Healthy Village, Healthy Forest**. The project supports Provincial and District priorities and raises funds to support the YUS Aid Posts, Health Centers, and health care workers in treating the local landowners and community. TKCP currently provides supplies and sponsors trainings such as Village Birth Attendant (VBA) Workshops for midwife training in the villages.

In 2008, TKCP sponsored the Kabwum District Health Department to finish a **Village Birth Attendant** Workshop

series in Yawan village. The Yawan workshop was a success, with 36 participants receiving continued training and medical kits. TKCP will sponsor another VBA workshop in 2009 as well as workshops in family planning, health/hygiene, and nutrition.

In 2008, TKCP also sponsored **health patrols** in each of the three YUS regions. Working with Dr. Gerard Saleu from the Institute for Medical Research (IMR) in Goroka, PNG, the TKCP Health Project provided funding and coordination for doctors and dentists to conduct patrols in YUS. 2008 health patrols took place throughout YUS in the regions of Som (July 22-29), Yopno (October 4-11), and Uruwa (November 22-29), successfully bringing medical treatment to more than 1,000 local community members and vaccinating hundreds of children.

Support from the Wyco Fund, Chinook Medical Gear, and Drs. Nancy Philips and Blair Brooks allowed TKCP to start the **Immunization Initiative** in 2008, with an emphasis on immunizing children in YUS under 5 years of age. In 2009, TKCP will install three solar refrigerators in Health Centers in each region of YUS. The refrigerators will allow for increased treatment of the local community by keeping cold doses of vital medications and vaccinations.

In 2009, TKCP also will begin a scholarship program for **Community Health Workers**. To address a shortage of trained Community Health Workers in the YUS villages, TKCP will sponsor YUS students to attend Community Health Worker School for future placement in local YUS Health Centers and Aid Posts.

OTHER NEWS



TKCP CONSERVATION TRUST LAUNCHED WITH EVENT FEATURING DR. JARED DIAMOND



In 2008, Conservation International (CI) announced a generous \$1 million challenge from the CI Global Conservation Fund. Combined with matching funds, the goal of this challenge is to create a \$2 million Conservation Trust for managing the protected area. Conservation International and Woodland Park Zoo (WPZ) are partnering to raise these funds. The Conservation Trust and the unique partnership between CI and WPZ were announced at an exclusive event hosted by Nathan Myhrvold and Rosemarie Havranek in Seattle, Washington. Held on Earth Day, April 22, 2008, the event featured scientist, and Papua New Guinea

expert Dr. Jared Diamond, author of the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Guns, Germs and Steel*. Dr. Diamond discussed the importance of TKCP's work and the efforts to create the first Conservation Area in PNG. Diamond, along with CI Senior Research Scientist Dr. Bruce Beehler, WPZ President and CEO Dr. Deborah Jensen, CI Chairman Peter Seligmann, and TKCP Director Dr. Lisa Dabek emphasized the importance of long-term funding for protected areas. Long-term funding through the Conservation Trust will finance the management of the new protected area and community livelihood projects.



WPZ CEO Deborah Jensen and Jared Diamond at TKCP Event.

Photos by Ryan Hawk/Woodland Park Zoo.

CARBON MARKETS AND THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

TKCP had the assistance of Andrea Cuccaro, graduate student at the Evans School of Public Affairs at the University of Washington in 2008. Cuccaro researched the rules and regulations of carbon trading to help TKCP determine the feasibility of using the carbon market as a mechanism for future

funding of the YUS Conservation Area. At the end of two quarters, with guidance from her UW faculty advisor, Dr. Dan Carlson, and TKCP's Susan O'Neil, Cuccaro delivered a thorough document on the background and details of trading carbon credits which has been shared with colleagues in Seattle, PNG, and elsewhere.

GERMAN DEVELOPMENT BANK VISITS YUS



Katja Trink, Bruce Beehler, Marcus Stewen and Lisa Dabek on a village trail

In 2008, TKCP and Conservation International (CI) hosted an assessment team from the German Development Bank (KfW). The purpose of the visit was to assess the project for potential funding. A climate change initiative from the German Ministry for the Environment could provide funds for the YUS Conservation Organization, allowing for improvements in the quality of life in YUS communities. Funds from KfW could also support a carbon content analysis of the forest, fast-growing fuel wood plots, and long-term altitudinal monitoring

to assess species and community range shifts in response to climate change.

To conduct their assessment, KfW representatives Marcus Stewen, Hubertus Kraienhorst, and Katja Trink accompanied TKCP staff Toby Ross, Sue Tallarico, Ruby Yamuna, and Lisa Dabek, along with CI representative Dr. Bruce Beehler, to the remote YUS villages of Yawan and Towet. Here, the team was introduced to the many facets of TKCP projects including conservation, research, education, and community health. The villages held community



Team from German Development Bank with gifts from YUS community

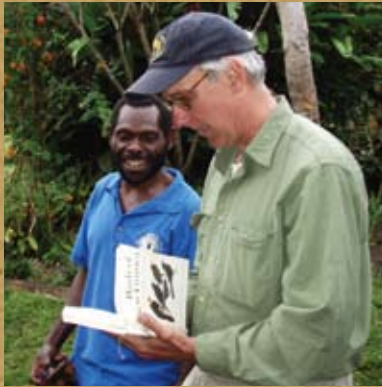
meetings so that the team could talk to villagers about TKCP work in YUS. The team also met with Morobe Provincial representatives including Governor Luther Wenge and representatives from the PNG Department of Environment & Conservation. KfW representatives were impressed with the conservation work in YUS and TKCP's collaborative work with the local community, government officials, and CI. The team gave CI and TKCP their endorsement for submitting a full proposal for German LifeWeb Initiative funding through KfW.

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT & SENIOR RESEARCH SCIENTIST VISIT WASAUNON FIELD SITE

The 2008 field season included a visit to the Wasaunon research site with Dr. Russ Mittermeier, President of Conservation International, his son Mickey, and Dr. Bruce Beehler, CI Senior Scientist and author of *Birds of New Guinea*. They spent three days at the YUS field site with Lisa Dabek, TKCP staff and YUS landowners. They tracked "Trish", the radio-collared tree kangaroo and spent hours observing her and her joey, and also saw long-beaked echidna, mountain cuscus (possum), birds of paradise, and other spectacular birds. Dono Ogate, TKCP Conservation Officer, YUS landowner, and community leader, led the local YUS field team who found many animals to show the visitors the diverse and endemic species that will be protected in the YUS Conservation Area. Mittermeier remarked at how impressed he was with the dedication of the YUS landowners for their stewardship of the protected area.



Lisa Dabek, Dr. Russ Mittermeier and son, Micky, with YUS field team



Dr. Bruce Beehler signs *Birds of New Guinea* for Dono Ogate in Yawan village



Long beaked echidna at Wasaunon field site

CONSERVATION FELLOWSHIP AWARDED

Susan O'Neil, TKCP Coordinator based at the Woodland Park Zoo, was selected as a 2008 Kinship Conservation Fellow. The goal of this prestigious fellowship is to gather emerging conservation leaders from the US

and around the world to learn about market-based approaches for solving conservation challenges. Susan spent four weeks on the campus of Western Washington University with 17 other fellows from places such

as China, Bangladesh, Namibia and Illinois. The month was spent learning about economic principles, carbon trading, product certifications, livelihood initiatives for local people, and program management and planning.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

IN 2008, WOODLAND PARK ZOO'S TKCP ACTIVITIES AND THE
TKCP CONSERVATION TRUST WERE SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING:

ABOVE \$100,000

Conservation International



\$20,000 TO \$50,000

Shared Earth Foundation
Margie Wetherald and Len Barson
Cammi and Jeff Libby
Anonymous



\$5,000 TO \$20,000

Columbus Zoological Park
National Geographic Society
Robert Plotnick & Gay Jensen
Conservation, Food & Health Foundation



\$1,000 TO \$5,000

Calgary Zoological Society
Chinook Medical Gear, Inc.
Cleveland Zoological Society
Kangaroo Conservation Center
Katie McGrath/Microsoft corporate match
Robert and Marti Liddell
Marsupial & Monotreme Taxon Advisory Group
Milwaukee County Zoo
New Mexico BioPark Society/ Albuquerque Zoo
Oregon Zoo
Pittsburgh Zoo & PGG Aquarium
Riverbanks Zoo Society
Roger Williams Park Zoo
Sedgwick County Zoo
St. Louis Zoological Park
Utah's Hogle Zoo



UP TO \$1,000

W. Blair Brooks & Nancy Philips
Sarah Brooks
Sylvia Tompkins

Santa Fe Community College
Oaklawn Farm Zoo

Forth Worth AAZK
Anonymous

SPECIAL THANKS

Special thanks to Nathan Myhrvold and Rosemarie Havranek for hosting the TKCP Conservation Trust event with featured speaker Dr. Jared Diamond on Earth Day 2008.

In 2008 Conservation International not only joined TKCP for many achievements in PNG, Australia and the US, but also generously funded TKCP's work through their Global Conservation Fund, Melanesia regional program, Critically Endangered Species Fund and sponsored the collaboration for funding from the German Development Bank.

THANK YOU TO OUR OTHER PARTNERS IN THE US, PNG AND AUSTRALIA

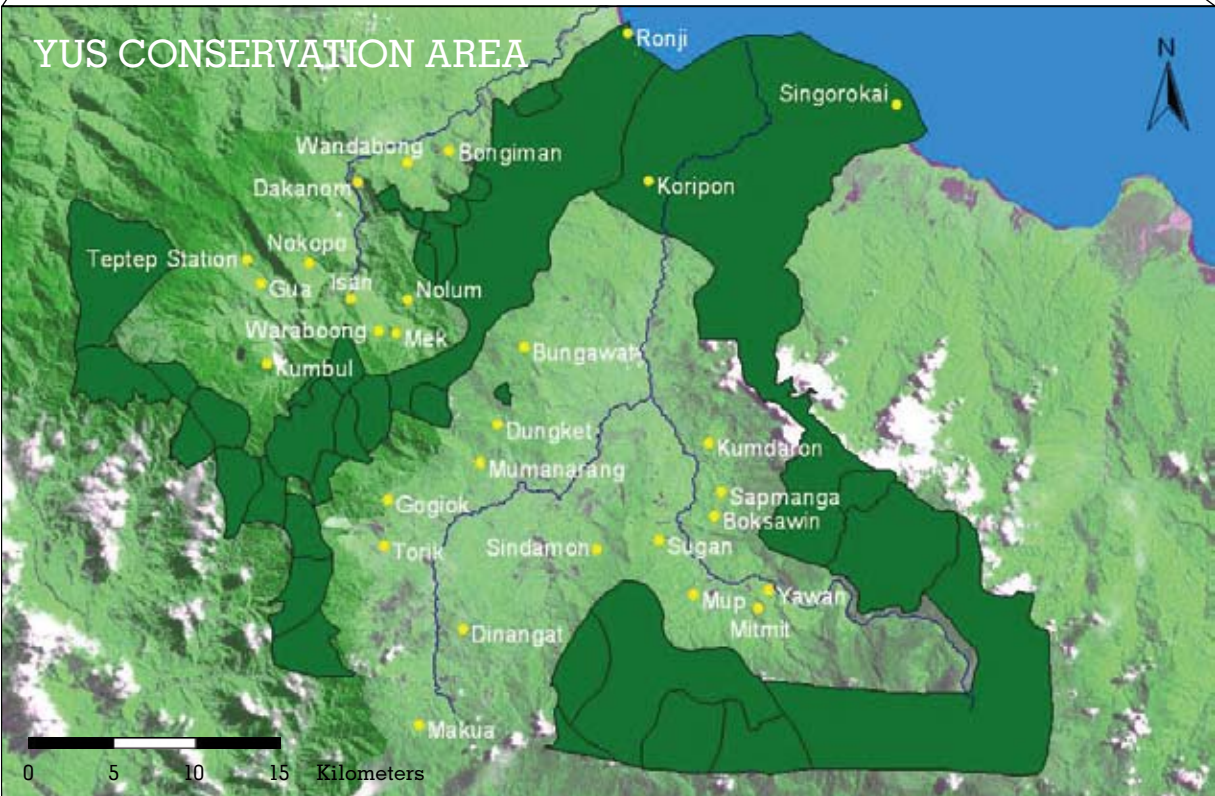
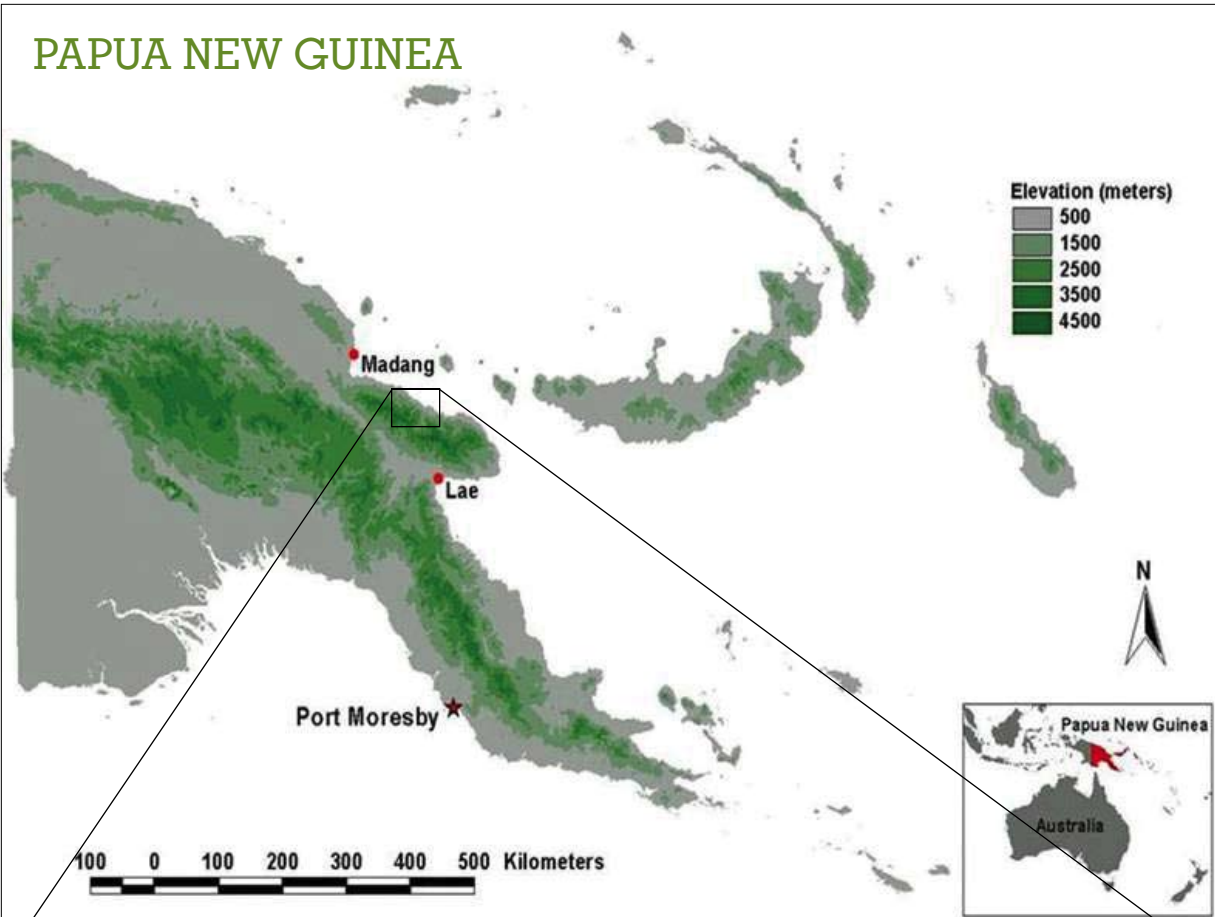


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 Kabwum District Government
 YUS Local Level Government Councilors
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 YUS Landowner Committee
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TREE KANGAROO CONSERVATION PROGRAM

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