

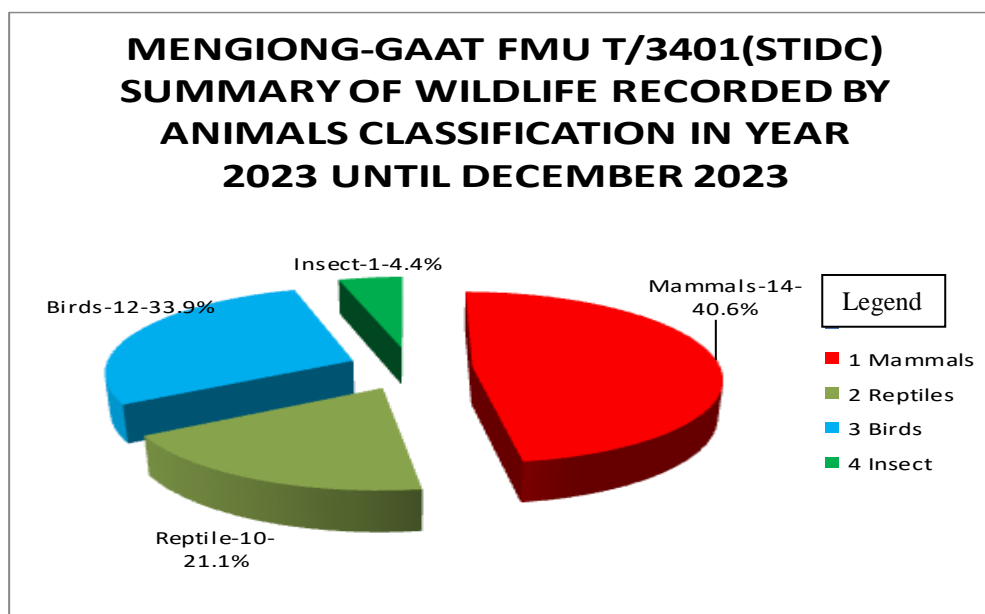
Wildlife Monitoring Report for Year 2023

1.1 Wildlife recorded by animals' classification in Year 2023.

The wildlife recorded by animals classification in Year 2023 (Jan – December, 2023) is summarized below:

The summary of wildlife's recorded by animals' classification (Coupe 1A, 2A, 13 & Saltlick) in Year 2023:

No	Animals Classification	Species Type		Month												Total
				Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
1	Mammal		14	2	9	8	5	9	6	2	4	2	10	6	11	73
2	Reptile		10	5	2	2	4	4	3	3	1	3	3	4	4	38
3	Bird		12	6	6	6	4	3	4	1	7	7	5	9	1	61
4	Insect		1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	1	1	8
				Grand Total												180



1.2 Wildlife Monitoring Report Year 2023:

The FMU Wildlife Monitoring Report Year 2023 shown the followings:

- For **HCV 1 and 2**: the FMU area has covering some HCV attributes, e.g. the existence of RTE species and species endemic to Borneo. However, when the qualitative and quantitative aspects of these attributes are viewed in the context of relevance either to national and Sarawak State needs or to the FMU, there is no justification for elevating any FMU forest conservation areas from the current protected status, HCV status under either HCV 1 or HCV 2 classification. This point is reinforced by the management protected zone providing an equal level of protection for mammals, reptiles, birds and insects that are free ranging which is not confined to limited areas of habitat.
- For **HCV 3**: reference is only made to riparian buffers zones the designation and protection of which are mandatory under the conditions attached to the FMP and EIA Report Approval Certificate. This is stick to reserve of Kerangas areas in the FMU.
- For **HCV 4**: reference is only made to Terrain Class IV which is present to only a very limited extent in the FMU area but is all within the designated Conservation Areas and is thus fully protected.
- For **HCV 5** : the wildlife report shows that there is no dependence on the forest products provided by the FMU area or indeed on those provided by the whole FMU area. The activity is the primary hunting and fishing and now verges on the purely recreational. Timber harvesting is the only harvested forest produce collected/harvested. It is abundantly clear that there has been no socio-economic impact of the FMU area to the communities. However, there may have some local directly employed in the FMU by employment opportunities and provision of road access to Nanga Gaat and Kapit Town.
- For **HCV 6**: the FMU has no sites of cultural significance. There is one saltlick identified lies inside the FMU area (Coupe 2A) but is in any case fully protected by a buffer zone, albeit the locals are allowed to hunt there for their own consumption.

1.3 Wildlife's Assessment Analysis based on the summary wildlife's report for year 2023

Based on the assessment above, it noted that:

- (i.) The FMU area had generally been a very minimum disturbance by reduced impact logging (RIL) system prior to the issue of the forest timber licence under reduced impact logging system.
- (ii.) No further salvage logging operation had been carried out prior to the endorsement of PEC with Operation 5 (felling) in Coupes 1A and 2A.
- (iii.) The FMU has continuing timber harvesting operation for 2-3 years (from 2021 to 2023).
- (iv.) Hunting activities by the FMU forest workers/employees and contractors are prohibited. Also, there is not much interest shown by locals in hunting and fishing for their own consumption within the FMU area because of far distance from their residential area.
- (v.) The conservation area of 532 ha is designated as management protected/conservation zone covered a very large forest protection area.

Based on the above, Points (i.) to (iv.) without doubt, are 'conservational negatives' but it is quite clear from the EIA and the HCV report that, despite these negatives, an interesting degree of biological diversity has been maintained.

Point (v.) is under management protected/conservation zone status and is therefore already protected from invasive human activity. This will surely lead to the existing diversity, already quite considerable, being quantitatively and qualitatively further enhanced over time.

1.4 Social Multiple-Use

Hunting is prohibited other than by members of the local communities and then only for personal consumption/own subsistence. The opportunities for fishing within the MTCS area are extremely limited.

FMU is not multi-use of the forested area but there is however no extension of Shifting Agriculture (SA) areas within the FMU.

Furthermore, the Native Communal Reserve for Agriculture (no. 29) Declaration Order, 2022 (made under section 96) that lands situated at *Rumah Tunku*, *Sungai Sebila* and *Sungai Gaat*, Kapit containing described as 'Entemu' Land District by the Sarawak Government Gazette dated 21st October, 2020.

1.5 Others:

The FMU has granted with 30-year timber licence tenure and is not falling within but adjacent to the Heart of Borneo (HOB) area as part of the Protected (20,295 ha or 56%) and State land (15,796 ha or 44%) Forest of Kapit division, as the results should benefit the protected forest area in the way of improved genetic material in time to come.

1.6 Conclusion:

There was no logging encroachment into the protection/conservation area of Stream Buffer Zone, Kerangas, Terrain IV and saltlick even though the harvesting operation was active in Coupe 2A (2023 and 2024).

There are many species of wildlife's was captured by camera trap during the monitoring activity at saltlicks in active Coupe 2A and inactive Coupes 4 and 25. This means that the animals were still presence in the FMU despite of the timber logging harvesting activities.

There were several species captured and observed proof that these animals were still roaming around for food presence and breeding ground in both active and non-active coupes of the FMU. This means that these animals both fauna and avifauna species were still in sustainability even though there is logging harvesting activities.

There are no significant changes in fauna based on wildlife's monitoring observed at the FMU. As at December, 2023, the total wildlife recorded consist of 14 species of mammals, 12 birds, 10 reptiles and 1 insect. In year 2023, 3 new species was reported at the FMU including species of *Musang*, Otter and White fronted langur. All these species were observed during the wildlife's patrolling and monitoring with the help of installing camera trap within the FMU areas. However, the absence of bearded pigs (*Sus Scrofa*) at the FMU is believed to be caused by African Swine Fever (ASF) and did not relate to timber logging harvesting impacts activities. According to the website, African Swine Flu (ASF) was first reported in the Kapit region in July, 2021. This means that the timber harvesting activities under reduced impact logging (RIL) system did not have any impact on the wildlife's activities in the FMU.

Mengiong - Gaat being a signatory for the convention on biological diversity is under legal obligation of DF circular 6/99 to fulfil or maintain the wildlife's targets in the forest management unit (FMU). The fact is that the management protected zone area such as stream buffer zone, kerangas, Terrain IV, water catchments and saltlicks have been declared as protected areas which will not be harvested during the logging harvesting of the FMU. This is to maintain the sustainability of ecosystems. Even though the timber harvesting in Coupe 1A covered 2,061 ha with conservation area of 42 ha, Coupe 2A covered 1,884 ha with conservation area of 70 ha., we have a total conservation area of 532 ha in the FMU. A close look at the wildlife monitoring recorded in Coupe 1A, 2A, and 13 shown that the wildlife is still in sustainability manner. This means that the reduced impact logging (RIL) harvesting system have

benefits to wildlife in the FMU and RIL logging harvesting system provides migratory path and escape route for the animals. Therefore, FMU is promoting accelerated assessment in the wildlife's resource in sustainability.