Conservation of Endangered, Endemic Megapode Macrocephalon maleo S. Muller, 1846 in Lore Lindu National Park, Indonesia: Strategy in Selecting Nesting Pit

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As a students from Celebes (Indonesia), we are interested about an endemic bird which are called Maleo. Maleo senkawor (Macrocephalon maleo S. muller, 1846) is an endemic animal from Celebes that include in the list of bird as an endangered category by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Maleo is monotypic, so its only found in Celebes especially in Lore Lindu National Park, which is a protected area and included in the World Network of Biosphere Reserves from UNESCO. The objective of the project is to study the ecological behavior, and factor affecting Maleo's survival for better conservation strategy. The ecological behavior observation was conduted from habitat of Maleo to selecting nesting pit for breeding. As a burrow nester, Maleo make nest hole to place their egg until it hatched in ± 65 days for the chick to strive out to the surface and furthermore will manage their self (precocial) and its need a geothermal resources. The laying egg behavior in leaving the nest hole, frequently makes the eggs threatened from the predators and the hatch failure. The result of research found that Maleo behavior in selecting the nesting pit, which is suitable with their needs and the design of nest hole in some conditions. Temperature for egg nesting appear to be one of critical factors and therefore it is necessary to protect area near the hot spring as nesting pit. It means, nesting pit its also need for accessbility from geothermal resources and density of vegetation. Part of strategy, plant feeding, forest fragmentation and urbanization are very important strategy to reduce risk of population declines. We further need some concrete and comprehend effort to preserve Maleos population by the wildlife conservation.

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