

satwa liar

EDISI 19 - APRIL - JUNI 2006

MENGGANTANG ASAP PENANGKARAN BADAK

BUILD THE CASTLE ON THE AIR RHINO CONSERVATION

Menuju Sinergi Global

Toward a Global Synergy

oleh/by Agus Sahlan Mahbub

Fakta-fakta hasil kerja WCU Lampung menunjukkan bahwa kejahatan satwa liar di Provinsi Lampung tidaklah berdiri sendiri. Melainkan berjangkauan dengan pelaku lain di tingkat regional Sumatera, nasional serta internasional. Globalisasi ternyata mempunyai anak haram: kejahatan global.

Kenyataan ini tentu menyentak semua pihak yang selama ini *concern* terhadap persoalan pelestarian satwa liar di Provinsi Lampung. Bahwa musuh bagi pelestarian satwa liar kini semakin menguat, baik dalam soal modal, jaringan, teknologi maupun informasi. Upaya pelestarian satwa liar pun mendapat tantangan yang semakin berat dan kompleks.

Perburuan satwa liar dilindungi, mungkin akan terus terjadi dengan tingkat eskalasi yang meningkat. Pasar yang tidak terbatas hanya di lokal, tetapi juga regional serta nasional membuat permintaan akan satwa liar eksotik menjadi sangat besar. Sistem-sistem kerja sindikasi perdagangan gelap tentu akan semakin berkembang dan rapi mengikuti naiknya permintaan pasar tersebut.

Hutan-hutan di Provinsi Lampung yang menjadi habitat banyak satwa liar eksotik pun dijadikan salah satu lumbung satwanya. Dari mana lagi asalnya satwa liar, kalau tidak dari habitat aslinya di hutan. Hutan yang mana, ya, hutan alam yang dua di antaranya masih ada di Provinsi Lampung.

Hasil penangkaran hingga saat ini masih sangat terbatas, baik dalam jumlah maupun jenisnya. Jauh dari mencukupi kebutuhan akan satwa-satwa eksotik. Selain berbiaya mahal, penangkaran juga butuh waktu. Lebih banyak, pelaku kejahatan konservasi satwa liar memilih jalan pintas: tangkap di hutan!

Cara-cara baru perburuan sepertinya juga akan muncul dengan tingkat efektivitas yang lebih tinggi.

Tentu ini semua harus disikapi. Tidak dengan emosi dan hati yang panas, tapi juga dengan pikiran-pikiran cerdas yang konstruktif. Perlu dicari langkah-langkah yang lebih efektif dan inovatif. Penguatan jaringan juga harus dilakukan dengan memperbesar persamaan dan sinergi antar para pemerhati satwa liar.

Berangkat dari latar belakang tersebut, WCU Lampung memandang perlu untuk meningkatkan kapasitas dan cakupan kerjanya. Melalui tangan-tangan terampil jurnalis AJI Lampung, WCU Lampung menerbitkan Majalah Kriminal Satwa Liar yang kini di tangan Anda.

Bentuk tampilan, gaya penulisan, serta isi pemberitaan memang tidak seperti edisi-edisi sebelumnya. Kami menginginkan media ini mampu memperkuat jaringan kerja para pemerhati satwa liar di tingkat global. Kami memimpikan media SATWA LIAR ini bisa mengglobal, tentu dengan capaian yang bertahap. Sebagai tahapannya, kami ingin memposisikan diri menjadi majalah nasional terlebih dulu. Kami butuh dukungan Anda semua. []

The facts of Lampung WCU's effort showed that the crime against wild animal in Lampung Province did not stand alone but had network with other perpetrators in Sumatera regional, national or even international. Globalization had its own illegitimate child: global crime.

This reality certainly astonished all those paid a serious concern upon the conservation of wild animal in Lampung Province all this time. Since the enemy of wild animal conservation got stronger, like its financial fund, network, technology and information; the effort for wild animal conservation was heavier and more complicated.

The poaching of protected wild animal would continuously occur and it's increasingly extent. The trade which was not limited to its local but ranged to regional and national drove the demand of exotic wild animal was very high. The network system of illegal trade syndicate was certainly developed and neat in accord with the increase of that demand.

The forests of Lampung Province as habitat of many exotic wild animals also turned to be one of its animal cages. Where does the animal come from if it does not come from its habitat in the forest? Which forest? The forests two of them are still available in Lampung Province.

The result from conservation up till now was very restricted, whether in number or in its species. It could not sufficiently fulfill the need for exotic animal. In addition to its high cost, the conservation also needed long period. Most of the perpetrators of the crime against wild animal chose the short cut: arresting in the forest!

The new ways of poaching will likely appear with its higher effectiveness.

This fact certainly should be responded. It was through bright and constructive thoughts, not through anger. The looking for the more effective and innovative ways was a must. The strengthening of the network also should be undergone through widening the sameness among the wild animal's activists.

It was based on the above background, Lampung WCU need to raise its capacity and its scope of work. Through the well-skilled journalists of AJI (the Alliance of Independent Journalists) member, Lampung WCU publishes this Crime Magazine: *Satwa Liar*.

The appearance, writing style, as well as its content, are certainly different from former editions. We hope this media should strengthen the network of wild animal activists in global level. We dream this *Satwa Liar* globally exist, with its gradual achievement. As one of its stages, we will to put this magazine as national magazine at first. We need your support. []



Dari kiri ke kanan/
from left to right:
Kholis, Budi,
Oyos, Agus,
Daman, Juwe,
dan Firman

satwa liar

Penanggungjawab/Underwriter
H. Ibnu Khalid
Dwi Nugroho Adhiasto

Pemimpin Redaksi/Chief Editor
Agus Sahlan Mahbub

Sidang Redaksi/Board
Firman Seponada (Koordinator)
Juwendra Asdiansyah, Budi SB
Isbedy Stiawan ZS, Damanhuri
Oyos Saroso HN, Nurkholis

Desain-layout/Designer
Joe Chaniago

Translator
Damanhuri

Alamat Redaksi/Address
Jl. Dr. Hatan II, Kompa Dalem
Blok B-15, Kotabaru, Bd Lampung
Telp./Fax: 0721-262043
e-mail: aji_lampung@yahoo.com

Hotline WCU Lampung
0812-7212204

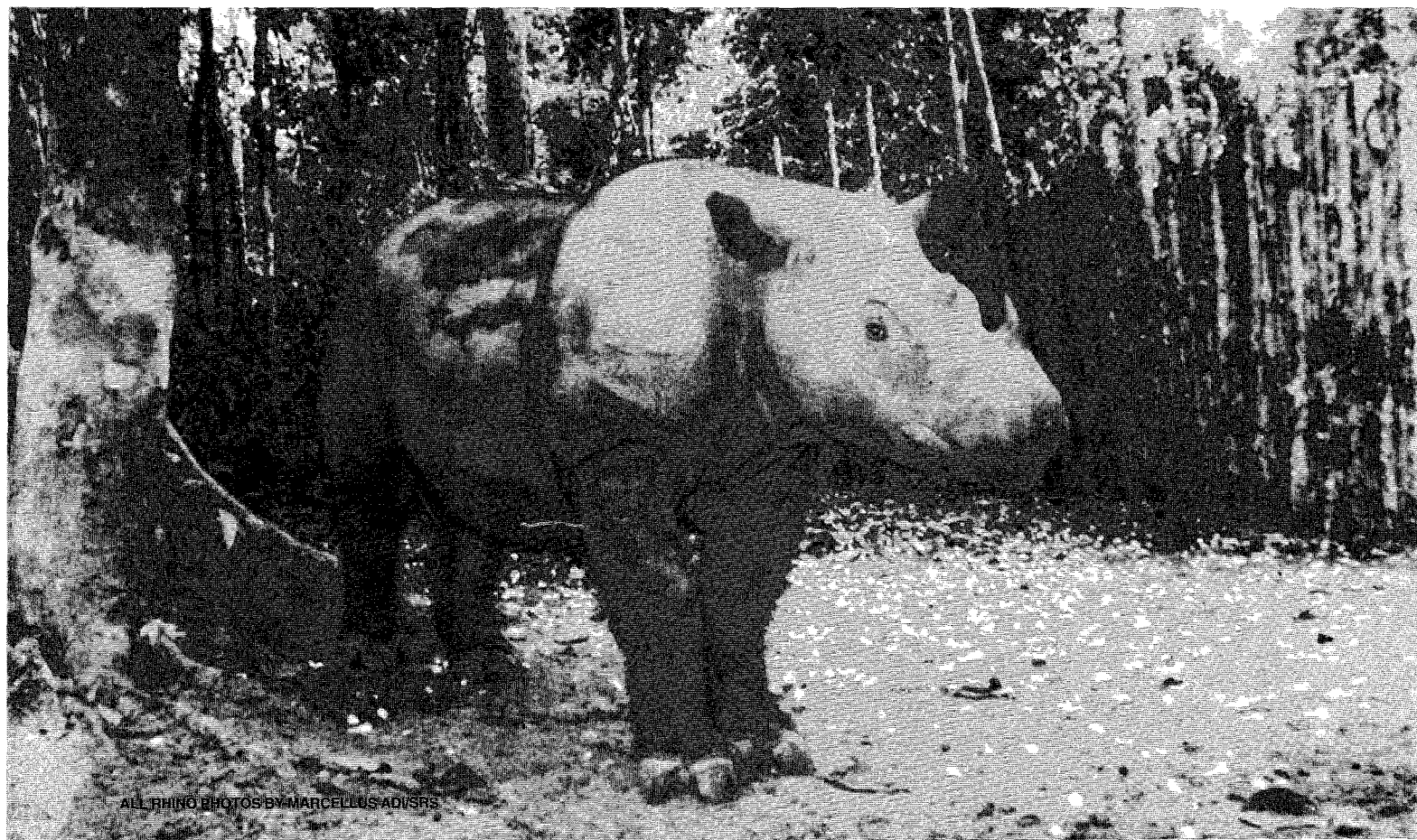
Penerbit/Published
Wildlife Crime Unit (WCU)
Lampung

Percetakan/Printing
Media Konsultan
0721-7419760

Rossa, badak Sumatera betina yang sejak 26 November 2005 dipindah dari Taman Nasional Bukit Barisan Selatan (TNBBS) ke Suaka Rhino Sumatera (SRS) di hutan TN Way Kambas mulai dilepas ke kandang alaminya. Sebelumnya, Si Penyendiri itu dirawat beberapa bulan dikandang adaptasi.

oleh Budi SB

JEJAK ROSSA DI RUMAH BARU



ALL RHINO PHOTOS BY MARCELLUS ADI/SRS

ROSSA'S TRACK AT NEW HOUSE

by Budi SB

Rossa, female Sumatran rhino relocated from South Bukit Barisan National Park (SBBNP) to Sumatran Rhino Sanctuary (SRS) in Way Kambas National Park (WKNP) since November 26, 2005, released to its natural habitat. Formerly, it was treated for some months at its adaptation's cage.

Sekarang Rossa sudah tampak lebih sehat. Itu sebabnya, SRS sudah berani melepas badak betina yang diperkirakan berusia muda, 5-6 tahun itu, ke kandang alami selalu puluhan hektare dari areal SRS yang mencapai 100 hektare. "Sebulan setelah diambil dari TNBBS, Rossa masih menemani kandang kecil untuk proses aklimatisasi atau penyesuaian di tempat barunya," kata Site Manager SRS Drh. Marcellus Adi CTR, 22 Februari lalu.

Rossa mulai leluasa bergerak di kandang barunya yang lebih besar. Namun, ia masih hidup tersekat dari tiga badak lain yang sudah ada di sana lebih dulu. Sekarang SRS memiliki empat badak, yaitu Torgamba (badak jantan yang didatangkan dari kebun binatang di Inggris), Bina (badak betina dari Taman Safari Indonesia), Ratu (badak betina yang diselamatkan setelah kedatangan masuk perkampungan di sekitar TNWK), dan Rossa, pendaftar baru dari TNBBS.

Dua ekor badak Sumatera betina yang masih muda (5-6 tahun), Rossa dan Ratu, kini menjadi primadona baru penghuni SRS dalam kawasan Taman Nasional Way Kambas (TNWK) Lampung Timur. Rossa dan Ratu akan ditangkarkan demi pelestarian badak Sumatera bercula dua (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*). "Jadi tidak benar kalau ada sorotan miring keberadaan badak di SRS ini ibarat masuk kebun binatang. Program ini adalah bentuk kepedulian dunia terhadap upaya pelestarian badak Sumatera," kata Marcellus Adi.

Di kawasan hutan di Lampung, baik di TNWK maupun TNBBS diperkirakan masih hidup sejumlah badak liar yang kini termasuk jenis satwa dilindungi dan sangat langka di dunia yang terancam punah. Adanya SRS di TNWK diharapkan dapat men-

jadi terobosan untuk mencegah kepunahan badak bercula dua yang ditengarai masih terus diburu oleh mafia perburuan satwa liar. Maklum, cula badak sangat mahal karena ada mitos membikin pria menjadi perkasa.

Ratu masuk ke "kandang alami" di SRS sejak 20 September 2005, setelah kedatangan "nyelonong" keluar hutan dan masuk ke perkampungan penduduk di sekitar Labuhan Ratu-Way Jepara, Lampung Timur. Sedangkan Rossa didatangkan dari hutan TNBBS juga untuk diselamatkan setelah kedatangan sering keluar hutan bahkan berperilaku "aneh" karena jinak dan tidak takut berkeliaran di perkampungan penduduk.

Kedua badak betina itu menambah koleksi dua badak yang masih bertahan hidup di SRS: Torgamba, badak jantan yang beberapa tahun lalu didatangkan dari Port Lympne Zoo-Inggris, dan Bina, badak betina dari Taman Safari Indonesia.

Satu badak lainnya, Dusun, badak betina asal Malaysia yang sebelumnya dipelihara di kebun binatang Ragunan-Jakarta setelah tiga tahun bertahan di SRS akhirnya mati akibat kelumpuhan kaki belakang. Diperkirakan akibat proses penuaan.

Keberadaan SRS di TNWK itu merupakan alternatif bagi pelestarian *in-situ* (semi alami) badak Sumatera dan mulai dibangun tahun 1996. Langkah ini untuk menjawab kegagalan

Rossa looks healthier now. Based on that better condition, SRS had courage to release that about five or six year old female rhino to its natural habitat that measures tens of hectares from SRS's 100 hectares area. "After one month's period of relocation from SBBNP, Rossa still lived at a small cage for the sake of adaptation to its new house," said Site Manager of SRS, Drh. Marcellus Adi CTR, on February 22, ago.

Rossa begins to do unhampered movements within its bigger new cage. However, it lives separately from another three rhinos lived there first. SRS has four rhinos now: Torgamba (a male rhino relocated from one of Britain's zoo), Bina (a male rhino relocated from Safari National Park), Ratu (a male rhino saved as it came into settled areas of WKNP), and Rossa, a new comer relocated from SBBNP.

Two young Sumatran rhinos (five till six year's old), Rossa and Ratu, are the SRS's new-most much-loved dwellers within Way Kambas National Park area, East Lampung. For the sake of two-horned-Sumatran rhinos' conservation (*Dicerorhinus Sumatrensis*), Rossa and Ratu are going to be preserved. "So it is absolutely wrong to throw a cynical judgement that rhino's existence within SRS is like being kept at a zoo. This program is a kind of world's care upon the endeavour of

Sumatran rhino's conservation," said Marcellus Adi.

Along Lampung forest, whether in WKNP or SBBNP, there are probably several wild rhinos belong to the species of protected animals as well as the world's rare and endangered animals. The existence of SRS in WKNP seriously hoped become a breakthrough to prevent two-horned Sumatran's extinction deemed continuously being poached by the gangster of wild animal poaching. It is understandable since rhino's horn high price and its living myth that it can effectively lead men to be "powerful".

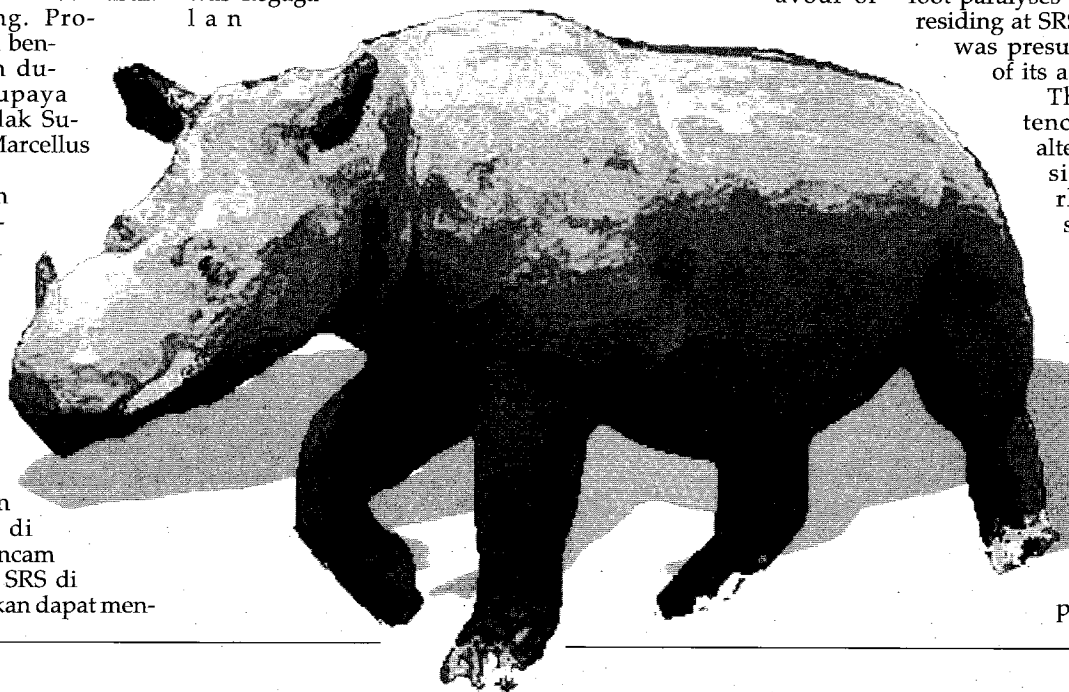
Ratu has been settling in its natural habitat in SRS since September 2005 after being known came out the forest and came in villagers' kampung around Labuhan Ratu, Way Jepara, east Lampung. Whereas Rossa also relocated from SBBNP to be treated in a safe way after being known frequently came out the forest and even performed an "unusual" act: tame and courageously walked throughout villagers' kampung.

That both rhinos added two rhinos remain alive at SRS: Torangga, a female rhino relocated from Port Lympne Zoo-Britain, and Bina, a female rhino relocated from Safari Park, Indonesia.

Another rhino, Dusun, a female ones relocated from Malaysia formerly caged at Jakarta Ragunan Zoo, eventually died thanked to its back foot paralyzes after three year residing at SRS. That incident was presumably because of its ageing process.

The SRS's existence in WKNP is alternative way *in-situ* Sumatran rhino's conservation established in 1996. This step was undertaken to answer the failed endeavour for *in-situ's* (outside's) breeding and conservation.

SRS is one of rhino's conservation program



upaya pembiakan dan penangkaran di luar habitat (*ex-situ*).

SRS merupakan salah satu program konservasi badak yang direkomendasikan oleh Direktorat Jenderal Perlindungan Hutan dan Konservasi Alam (PHKA) Dephut sebagai bagian Strategi Konservasi Badak Indonesia.

Menurut Site Manager SRS Marcellus, hingga saat ini keempat

ekor badak di SRS itu dalam keadaan baik dan normal. Namun, Rossa masih menunjukkan tingkah laku yang cenderung aneh dan tampak ingin selalu dekat dengan manusia. Padahal, di habitat aslinya di hutan, badak adalah hewan soliter (penyendiri) dan selalu menjauhi manusia.

"Sampai hari ini Rossa masih belum bisa dipisahkan dari orang di sekitarnya. Walaupun mulai kami lepas ke kandang alami yang lebih luas di sini, setiap mengetahui ada orang, dia cepat mendekat," kata Marcellus.

Sedangkan Ratu, salah satu kakinya belum pulih dari cedera saat digiring ke SRS setelah keluar hutan TNWK menjelang akhir September 2005. "Tapi kakinya tidak sampai patah dan kami terus melakukan perawatan serta pemantauan kondisi kesehatannya agar dapat pulih kembali," ujar dia.

Marcellus berharap, kehadiran kedua ekor badak betina usia muda itu dapat memuluskan upaya SRS dalam membiakkan badak yang selama beberapa tahun terakhir belum memberikan hasil menggembirakan kendati sudah banyak "misteri" badak dapat diketahui. "Hasil pengecekan kami salah satu penyebab belum berhasilnya pembiakan secara alami di sini adalah faktor Torgamba, badak jantan yang diketahui kualitas spermanya kurang baik," cetus Marcellus.

Berbagai upaya telah dilakukan untuk meningkatkan kualitas sperma Torgamba agar bisa membuahi badak betina yang ada di sana. Namun, sampai sekarang Bina yang telah berkali-kali dikawininya belum bunting juga. "Setelah proses aklimatisasi selesai, mudah-mudahan Rossa dan Ratu dapat dikawinkan pula dengan Torgamba untuk memberikan harapan baru keberhasilan pembiakan badak liar bercula dua di sini," katanya.

Misteri Kehamilan

Mimpi panjang, sejak tahun 1998 hingga kini, akan lahirnya badak di SRS belum juga terwujud. Namun, pengelola SRS di TNWK belum mau menyerah. "Kami memang belum berhasil membiakkan badak Sumatera di sini, tapi peluang untuk badak betina bisa hamil dan berbiak cukup terbuka. Jadi, walaupun belum ada badak yang hamil, kami belum gagal," cetus Marcellus Adi.

Marcellus memberikan sejumlah argumentasi mengenai masih cukup besarnya peluang badak-badak betina di SRS TNWK dapat dibuahi dan berbiak. Petugas dan peneliti di SRS selama bertahun-tahun ini berhasil memperoleh informasi penting tentang perilaku harian badak Sumatera yang termasuk salah satu satwa yang dijuluki "fosil hidup"—karena jenis seumurnya sudah lama punah. Misteri tentang daya jelajah, makanan, aktivitas berkubang dan perilaku perkawinan (mengetahui tanda dan waktu penggabungan yang tepat, analisis sperma, *ultrasound*) sudah diketahui. Monitoring khusus kesehatan berupa pemeriksaan rutin dan laboratorium juga



recommended by General Directorate for Forestry Protection and Natural Conservation, Forestry Department, as a part of Indonesian Rhino's Conservation Strategy.

According to Site Manager of SRS, Marcellus, those four SRS's rhinos live a good and normal life. However, Rossa still shows an unusual action and seems eagerly want to always side by side with people. In fact, when it is in

forest, as its habitat, rhino is solitary animal always goes from people away. "Rossa is still difficult to live separately from people. Although we begin to release it into its wider natural habitat, as soon as it knows that people come around, it will approach to them," said Marcellus.

While Ratu, one of its foot did not make recovery from injury when it was driven to SRS after running away from WKNP area around September, 2005. "However, it foot does not broken and we continuously give medical treatment and control its health condition to make recovery," he said.

Marcellus hoped the presence of those two young rhinos could lead SRS's effort in rhino's breeding looked unsuccessful during the last years although some rhino's "mysteries" were finally disclosed. "What causes that natural breeding is unsuccessful yet is, based on our research, Torgamba's factor: a male rhino known as rhino with bad quality's sperm," said Marcellus.

Various efforts were undertaken to raise Torgamba sperm's quality in order to successfully copulate female rhino settled in here. Unfortunately, although Torgamba copulated Bina several times, that female rhino was not pregnant yet up till now. "We hope Rossa and Ratu are finally ready to be copulated by Torgamba when the acclimatisation completely done," he said.

Mystery of Pregnancy

Long dream, since 1998 until now, for the birth of rhino in SRS has not been coming true yet. However, SRS's staff in WKNP did not give up hope. "We are certainly unsuccessful to bred Sumatran rhino yet. Even though, female rhinos have open opportunity to be pregnant and to breed. So, although no rhino is pregnant yet, we are not totally failed yet," said Marcellus Adi.

Marcellus told some arguments concerning the opportunity for female rhinos settle in SRS, WKNP, to be successfully copulated and to breed. SRS's staff and researchers successfully gained important information concerning Sumatran rhino's daily activities—one of animals belongs to those nicknamed as "living fossil" since its same age species was extinct for a long time.

Mystery of rhino's exploration strength, its foods and activities to wallow or its copulation's attitude (knowing precise time of copulation, sperm analysis, ultra-sound) were already known. "Special health monitoring in form of that routine control will be very useful. It is difficult to see rhino, let alone do research on it throughout forest," said Marcellus.

The literature concerning rhino's attitude generally told us that thick skinned animal and firmly convinced by some people that its horn could give men's extra-sexual power was solitary wild animal. It is known that rhino usually protects and takes care of its children only for few years and after that live in

terus dilakukan. "Informasi tentang badak seperti itu akan sangat berguna, jangankan untuk meneliti badak liar di hutan, untuk berjumpa saja sangat sulit," ujar Marcellus.

Referensi perilaku badak umumnya menyebutkan, hewan berkulit tebal yang dimitoskan culanya dapat membikin para lelaki bertahan lama di atas ranjang itu adalah satwa liar yang "soliter" atau senang menyendiri. Badak diketahui hanya mengasuh dan melindunginya anak-anaknya dalam beberapa tahun. Setelah itu, dibiarkan hidup sendiri. Bahkan dijumpai beberapa kasus perseteruan dan perkelahan antara anak badak dan badak dewasa yang tidak lain orangtuanya sendiri.

Namun, badak termasuk satwa liar yang nyaris tidak memiliki musuh dan tidak pula memiliki predator khusus, kecuali anak badak yang rawan diburu binatang buas seperti harimau yang kesulitan memperoleh makanan lain. Atau badak-badak muda mesti berkelahi dengan badak dewasa.

Badak liar baru akan mencari-cari dan bertemu pasangan masing-masing ketika musim berahi tiba. Selebihnya, badak betina dan jantan kerap berpisah dan tidak harus "rantang-runtung" selalu berdua galibnya pasangan satwa umumnya.

Hasil observasi dan penelitian menunjukkan, Bina dan Torgamba sebenarnya masih memiliki potensi reproduksi yang baik untuk bisa berbiak secara alami di habitatnya yang asli di SRS TNWK. Evaluasi potensi, Bina masih memiliki kemampuan reproduksi yang tinggi dan normal. Namun, Torgamba sebagai satu-satunya badak pejantan di SRS TNWK yang beratnya berkisar 640 sampai 715 kg itu masih butuh penanganan khusus, terkait hasil evaluasi kesuburannya.

Libido Naik, Sperma Rendah

Para peneliti di SRS menemukan adanya perbaikan pola siklus reproduksi Bina dan peningkatan libido (nafsu untuk kawin) serta perbaikan perilaku percumbuan Torgamba. Bina yang beratnya berkisar 610 sampai 660 kg menunjukkan perkembangan potensi reproduksi yang sangat berarti sejak tahun 1998. Badak betina ini telah menunjukkan kembali ke siklus berahi yang reguler (20—25 hari) dan mengalami perbaikan pola percumbuan. Pada awal pertemuan antara Torgamba dan Bina, Bina lebih banyak mengambil inisiatif (lebih agresif).

Walaupun Torgamba sering kalah dominan dibanding Bina, sejak Mei 2001 Torgamba sudah mengalami peningkatan dalam perkawinan dengan beberapa kali mencoba untuk menaikinya (*mounting*) Bina sebagai tanda utama dalam perkawinan.

Perbaikan perilaku berahi dan perkawinan dapat dibuktikan dengan hasil analisis hormonal (dari sampel urin dan feses/kotoran). Profil *metabolit steroid progesterone* dan *oestrogen* tampak menunjukkan pola yang sama dengan kemunculan perubahan perilaku seksual dan perubahan morfologi tanda-tanda *oestrus*. Torgamba juga tampak jelas mengalami peningkatan libido dan kemampuan aktivitas kawinnya sejak ditempatkan di SRS.

Untuk lebih meningkatkan kemampuan dalam percumbuan dan menstimulasi *male dominancy* badak jantan terhadap Torgamba, sejak Desember 2001 telah dilakukan manipulasi penampungan semen (sperma), walaupun belum mendapatkan ejakulasi sempurna. Program itu didukung dengan pelepasan Torgamba ke lokasi yang lebih luas, dari hanya sekitar 10-an hektare menjadi 40—50 hektare.

Kendati peneliti di SRS masih menemukan masalah dan hambatan dalam pengembangbiakan "semi-insitu" (pembinaan pada habitat alami

solitary. It is even found out some fights between young rhino and adult ones that nothing but its parents.

However, rhino is wild animal does not have enemy and special predator except its children which potentially preyed by wild animal such as tiger that face difficulty to have another prey. Or young rhino sometimes should fight against adult ones.

Wild rhino will look for and finally meet each of its couple during period of heat only (when it is time to copulate). During the rest of that time, female rhino and male ones often lives separately and do not always live in pairs as common animals do.

The result of observation and research shows that Bina and Torgamba actually still have their good and normal reproductive potency to breed naturally in their habitat at SRS WKNP. Based on reproductive potency research, it is known that Bina still has high and normal reproductive ability. Torgamba, the only male rhino at SRS, WKNP, and weighs about 640 till 715 kilograms, based on research result concerning its fertility, still need special treatment.

High Lust, Low Sperm

Researchers at SRS found out Bina's better reproduction period, its lust increase, as well as Torgamba's better sexual attitude. Bina, a female rhino weighs about 610 till 660 kilograms has been indicating a meaningful reproduction potency increase since 1998. This female rhino indicated that it returned to its regular sexual period (20 till 25 days) and got its better sexual attitude. At the beginning of meeting between Torgamba and Bina, it looked that Bina was more aggressive.

Although Bina looked more sexually dominant than Torgamba did, Torgamba has been getting better increase on sexual activity by mounting Bina (as a most important sign in sexual activity) several times.

A better increase on sexual activity could be based evidently on hormonal analysis result (from its urine and feces sample). The profile of steroid progesterone metabolite and oestrogen seemingly showed same mode as sexual attitude emergence as well as oestrus signs on morphological change. Torgamba obviously got better sexual impulse and its ability con copulation activity since it was relocated at SRS.

To raise rhino's sexual activity and to stimulate Torgamba's male dominance, although it could not get total ejaculation yet, sperm catch manipulation has been done since December, 2001. This program supported by releasing Torgamba to larger site, from about ten hectares only into 40 till 50 hectares.



dengan penyesuaian), baik terhadap Bina maupun Torgamba, mereka menyatakan optimisme "proyek prestisius" itu akan memberikan hasil spektakuler.

Tim peneliti menemukan, kualitas ejakulasi dan sperma Torgamba tergolong rendah. Kualitas ejakulasi rendah diketahui sejak dilakukan stimulasi ejakulasi dengan penampungan semen secara manual pada akhir tahun 2000 dan hasil penampungan sisa ejakulasi dan kopulasi alami sampai tahun 2003. Kualitas sperma yang rendah diketahui sejak dilakukan penampungan dengan tingkat abnormalitas yang tinggi dan konsentrasi sperma sangat sedikit. Di samping itu, dari hasil penampungan sisa ejakulasi hasil kopulasi alami tidak ditemukan sperma sedikitpun.

"Kepastiannya memerlukan evaluasi kesuburan secara menyeluruh, sebelum terjadi sesuatu terhadap badak yang usianya terus menua serta diperkirakan hanya akan bisa hidup dalam usia 40-an tahun itu," kata Marcellus.

Beberapa alternatif mempercepat proses pembuahan alami di antaranya dengan "mendatangkan" badak jantan muda untuk mengawini Rossa dan Ratu. Alternatif ini mendesak dilakukan karena kejantanan Torgamba tidak juga membaik walaupun telah dilakukan berbagai upaya, termasuk dengan memberikan semacam "obat kuat" kepadanya.

Kalau memungkinkan pula, Marcellus berharap bisa didatangkan lagi badak jantan yang akan ditangkap dari habitatnya di kawasan hutan di Pulau Sumatera. Alternatif lain, menjajaki kerjasama dengan Cincinnati Zoo (AS) yang diketahui salah satu badak Sumatera yang dikirim ke sana berhasil membuahi badak betina. Pemulangan badak Sumatera dari AS itu bisa lewat barter dengan badak jantan yang ada di penangkaran di Malaysia. "Bisa pula melakukan alternatif inseminasi buatan atau 'meminjam' jantan lokal yang hidup di TNWK ini," ujar Marcellus.

Beberapa opsi tersebut memiliki kelebihan dan kelemahan, selain kian membuka peluang keberhasilan pembiakan badak di SRS TNWK, diperlukan dana dalam jumlah besar untuk melakukannya serta dukungan kerjasama internasional.

Kini berbagai alternatif itu masih ditunggu kelanjutannya dengan negosiasi antarpemerintah. Sementara itu, kehadiran dua primadona baru badak betina muda di SRS TNWK, Rossa dan Ratu yang akan menantikan kehadiran "pejantan tangguh" yang baru, masih mengandalkan Torgamba yang diduga impoten. []

Alternatif ini mendesak dilakukan karena kejantanan Torgamba tidak juga membaik walaupun telah dilakukan berbagai upaya, termasuk memberikan semacam "obat kuat" kepadanya.



Although SRS researchers still find out many obstacles concerning "semi-in-situ" breeding (breeding takes place in rhino's habitat supported by acclimation effort), upon both Bina and Torgamba, they are optimistically that this "prestigious project" will give a spectacular result.

Researcher team found out that Torgamba's bad quality of ejaculation and sperm. The ejaculation's bad quality was known after stimulating its ejaculation through manual sperm catch in the year of 2000 and ejaculation rest catch as well as natural copulation up to 2003. The sperm's bad quality was known after high abnormal catch and low sperm concentration. Besides, based on the rest of ejaculation catch from natural copulation it was not found any sperms at all.

"To know it precisely, we need to evaluate its fertility wholly before thing occurs to that becoming old rhino and firmly assumed to live only for about forty years old," said Marcellus.

Some alternative ways to fasten the process of natural copulation was undertaken, among others, through relocating young male rhino to copulate Rossa and Ratu. This alternative is a must based on the fact that even though many efforts were seriously undergone, such as giving "sexual tonic medicine", Torgamba's virility still does not get better yet.

If it is possible too, Marcellus hopes another male rhino relocated from its habitat throughout Sumatran island forest area. Another alternative is doing cooperative effort with Cincinnati Zoo (United States) since one of Sumatran male rhinos relocated there was successfully copulated female rhino there. Bringing that Sumatran rhino back is possibly done through barter it for female rhino settles at one of Malaysian rhino sanctuaries. "It is possible also to do an alternative manmade insemination or 'borrow' local male rhino settles in this WKNP," said Marcellus.

Those various options have its strength and weakness. However, even though we needs big amount of financial fund and international cooperative support to undergo those options, the success of rhino's breeding at SRS, WKNP, seems more possible.

Now, based on inter-government's negotiation, those various alternatives is still in waiting. While the presence of two much loved young female rhinos in SRS, WKNP, Rossa and Ratu, who will be waiting for the presence of new "strong male" rhino, remains dependent to Torgamba which is strongly assumed as sexually impotent. []