

EDITORIAL

It is fitting that our first two issues deal with two reserves in West Java, one montane and one coastal. These lie in one of the most densely populated areas of Indonesia and can be visited readily. After this we hope to turn our attention to the less well known other islands, not that we can afford to be complacent about Java. In the future we hope to see checklists of other reserves in Java such as Ujung Kulon, Halimun, Meru Betiri and Baluran.

Elsewhere in this issue there is an announcement of four new ICBP technical publications. Three of these report on presentations at the XVIII ICBP World Conference and cover the conservation of sea birds, islands and tropical forests, all habitat groups that are very relevant to Indonesia. The fourth publication is Part 1 of the third edition of the ICBP/IUCN Bird Red Data Book and covers the African continent. We look forward to seeing the volume that deals with oriental birds, but sadly our knowledge is still insufficient to be able to recommend which Indonesian birds should be included on the threatened list. Indeed, this is one of the inherent objectives of *Kukila*. We are almost certain that our Javanese endemic lapwing *Vanellus macropterus* is now extinct; how many of our small island endemics that are dependent upon forest habitat are seriously endangered if not already extinct? We need to know where the thrust of our conservation strategy should be applied, now that lowland forests are being logged, or cleared wholesale for agricultural settlement, at an alarming rate. We do not wish to see our *Kukila* checklists being of historical interest only, in the near future. This may already be the fate of a list published ten years ago for Kutai reserve in Kalimantan, the victim of the 1983 forest fires.

In our first issue the subscription rate was given as \$20 per year. This rate is conceded as being excessive, and has now been reduced to \$2.50 per issue (minimum subscription \$10). Details are given inside the front cover. In fact our circulation list is inevitably small and we do not expect to cover our costs at either rate. In order to publish *Kukila* so easily, we are indebted to the generous sponsorship of the Green Indonesia Foundation and their magazine *Voice of Nature*.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Kalimantan Bird Records Required. In a future edition of *Kukila* we propose to publish all bird records from Kalimantan subsequent to the works of B.E. Smythies (his 1957 checklist in the *Sarawak Museum Journal*, and the three editions of his *Birds of Borneo*, the last of which was published in 1981 by the Sabah Society with the Malayan Nature Society). It is our belief that there has been only very limited ornithological activity in the Indonesian portion of Borneo during this period, and we are anxious to record in print all recent observations which, together with Smythies' work, will form a data base for future studies. Anyone having observations is requested to submit them as soon as possible to the editors, with dates and locations. It is important that the common species are included. Full acknowledgements will be given.