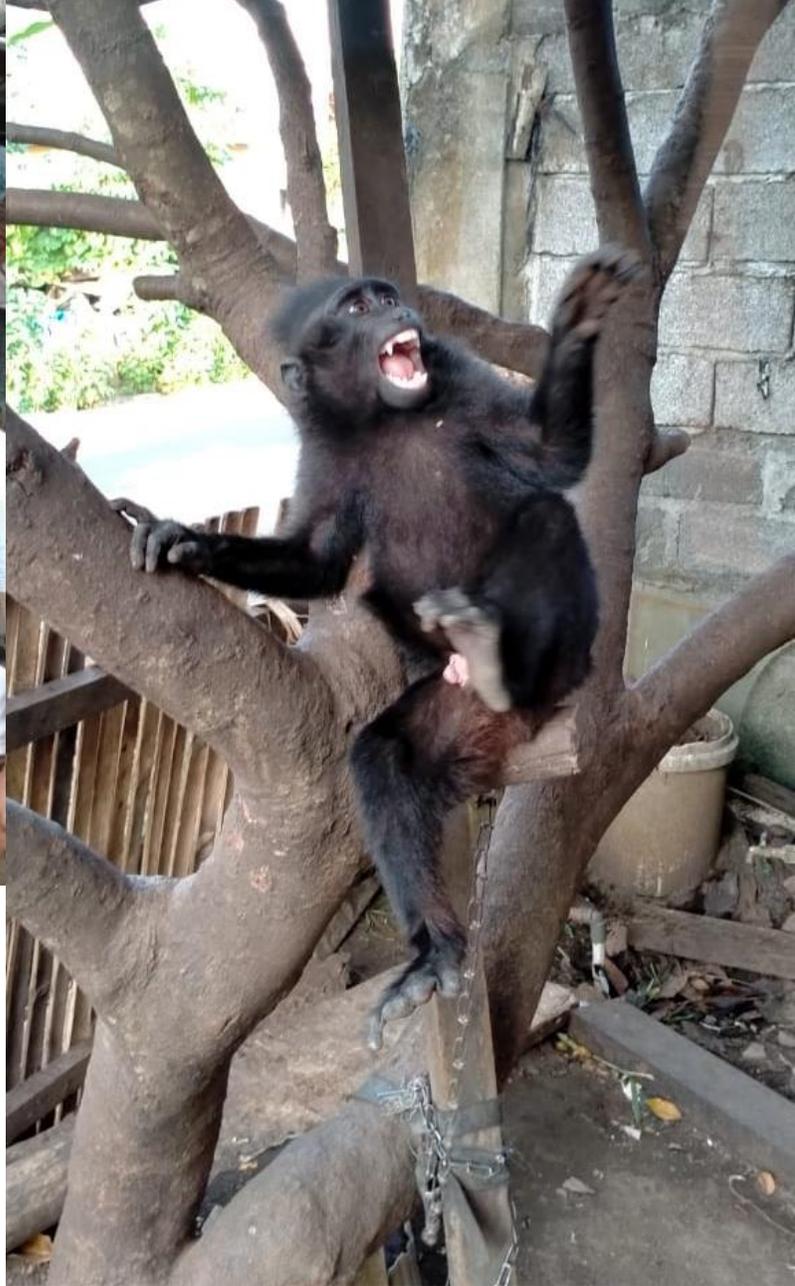
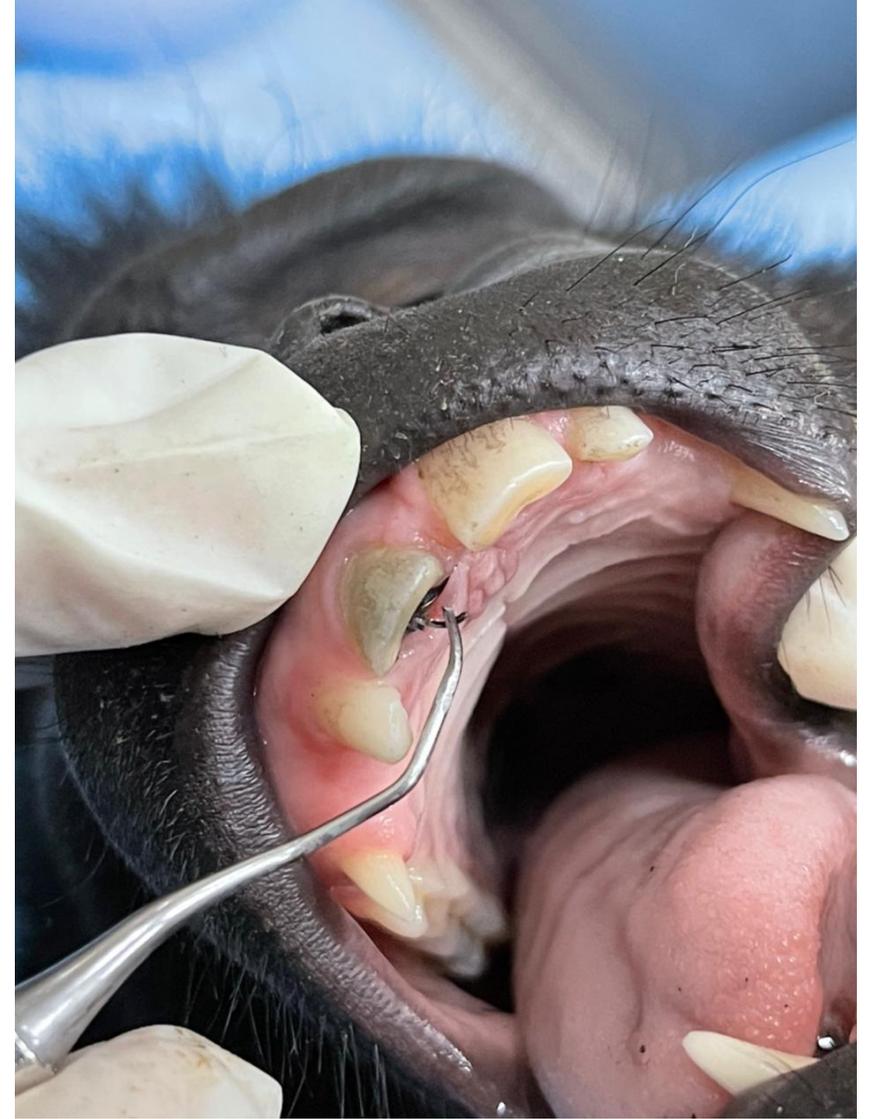


May 2021 Update from Tasikoki

Pictures by Billy Lolowang



Meet “Rohman” the Black Crested Macaques (*Macaca nigra*) recently rescued from a resident in North Minahasa. This young male was being kept as pet, chained on a tree as seen in this picture. The owner was a pastor that got Rohman from a member of the church as a gift. “Rohman” is missing some of the fingers of his right foot caused by the snare that trapped him from the wild. Rohman will now enter his obligatory quarantine period at Tasikoki after which the our Tasikoki primate keepers will try to introduce him to a group to be released to the wild. Being still young he has a good chance of getting integrated with his fellow macaques in a large group, if he is found to be healthy after the quarantine period. There is still much work to do for our Masarang’s wildlife rescue center!



Here is Blacky, another Black Crested macaque that Masarang's Tasikoki Wildlife and Education Center rescued last month. When we did a thorough physical examination after he finished his quarantine and before starting the socialization process, we found pieces of wire stuck to his teeth as you can see in the picture. They are probably pieces of the wire of the snare that caught him from the wild or from the chain his owner used to tie him up. So desperate he must have been to get free! The wire has been removed by our vet and Blacky is now in recovery before joining other macaques.



Last month we received a shipment with medical supplies for Tasikoki donated by iDsMed, a distributor company for medical equipment in Indonesia. This company has provided us already several times with in kind donations and we are very grateful to Ben Chang and his representative Rufi Susanto for their continued support for wildlife conservation in Indonesia and specially for Masarang's Tasikoki Wildlife Rescue and Education Center in North Sulawesi and the Sintang Orangutan Center in West-Kalimantan. In this donation we received some test kits for Hepatitis too which is common in primates. Thank you!



Above a picture of part of our restored bird quarantine facilities, that was sponsored by a Belgian Foundation. This year we will repatriate a large group of birds to Papua. After the physical examination of the birds, we now start to assess their flight ability. Here we have setup the corridor in the middle of aviary enclosure as a flight exercise tunnel.



We currently do not have a biologist & animal behaviour expert on our team due to the financial difficulties in this Covid period, but before the former staff left we trained our vets to observe the behaviour of the animals as they can be seen doing here at the bird aviary for the birds we plan to repatriate and release the coming year.



The socialization cages that we were able to rebuild with help from the Babel Foundation are being prepared to be occupied by a new group of macaques. We constructed a lot of visual barriers and hiding spots using palm fronts inside this enclosure to facilitate introductions of new members of the group.



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Our primate keepers, Marke and Jamry, busy preparing the food for the macaques in the primate center.



Our bird keeper, Joutje, busy collecting the Ketapang/Sea almond (*Terminalia catappa*) seeds that had fallen after a big storm that caused a lot of abberation on both the Tasikoki and Tulap turtle beaches. He can easily collect a full bucket of fresh natural fruits everyday for the cockatoos and other animals like cuscus that also like these sea almond fruits.



“Robi” the Sulawesi Bear Cuscus (*Ailurops ursinus*), busy eating the Ketapang (*Terminalia catappa*) fruits. We plan to release him back to the wild next month during World Environment Day 5th June



Remember the macaque that got a very nasty wound as reported in our last update? He has completely recovered now and is ready to be introduced back to the group again. Here is our vet Peggy checking his condition before letting him join the group.



“Dicky” a Moor Macaques enjoying his enrichment. He was confiscated in West Java in 2018 and arrived a year later at Tasikoki. He is about to join some other Moor macaques to form another release group for this separate species.



Recently we moved the Moor Macaques from the various other cages, to the large sanctuary forest enclosure where they can prepare themselves for the final release. Moor macaques (*Macaca maura*) are originally from South Sulawesi. Currently we have 8 individuals of this species in Tasikoki's care. In the pictures you see them being moved and released in their new facility.