

1 **Artificial canopy bridges improve connectivity in fragmented landscapes:**
2 **the case of Javan slow lorises in an agroforest environment**

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17 Running head: Canopy bridge use by slow lorises

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Abstract:

Canopy bridges are increasingly used to reduce fragmentation in tropical habitats yet monitoring of their impact on the behavior of primates remains limited. The Javan slow loris (*Nycticebus javanicus*) is endemic to Java, Indonesia, where the species most often occurs in human-dominated, highly patchy landscapes. Slow lorises cannot leap, are highly arboreally adapted, and are vulnerable on the ground. To increase arboreal connectivity, as part of a long-term conservation project in Cipaganti, West Java, we built and monitored seven slow lorises bridges of two types – waterline or rubber – and monitored their use by seven adult individuals from 2016-2017. Motion triggered camera traps collected data for $195 \pm \text{SD } 85$ days on each bridge. We collected 341.76 hours (179.67 h before and 162.09 h after the installation of bridges) of behavioral and home range data via instantaneous sampling every 5-min, and terrestrial behavior (distance and duration of time spent on the ground) via all occurrences sampling. We found that slow lorises used bridges on average $12.9 \pm \text{SD } 9.7$ days after their instalment mainly for travelling. Slow lorises showed a trend towards an increase in their home range size (2.57 ha before, 4.11 ha after; $p=0.063$) and reduced ground use (5.98 s/h before, 0.43 s/h; $p=0.063$) after implementation of bridges. Although the number of feeding trees did not change, new feeding trees were included in the home range, and the proportion of data points spent travelling and exploring significantly decreased ($p=0.018$). Waterline bridges serve a purpose to irrigate the crops of local farmers who thus help to maintain the bridges, and also ascribe value to the presence of slow lorises. Other endemic mammal species also used the bridges. We advocate the use and monitoring of artificial canopy bridges as an important supplement for habitat connectivity in conservation interventions.

Keywords: conservation evidence, forest fragmentation, *Nycticebus javanicus*, wildlife crossings

Research highlights:

- We integrated artificial canopy bridges into the home range of Javan slow lorises allowing them to save energy and access new areas.
- Bridges made of waterpipes supplied irrigation to farmers' crops providing additional benefits for local communities.

53 **Introduction**

54

55 Exponential human population growth rate and the ever-growing demands for ecosystem
56 services are having a dramatic impact on wildlife (Power, 2010). The expansion of
57 agriculture and urbanization are the major causes of deforestation, resulting in the reduction
58 and fragmentation of once continuous habitats (Hilty, Lidicker, and Merenlender, 2006;
59 Lokschin, Printes, and Cabral, 2007; Arroyo-Rodríguez and Mandujano, 2009; Vickers et al.,
60 2015). The lack of connectivity affects movements between animal populations (Valladares-
61 Padua, Cullen, and Padua, 1995; Yokochi, Chambers, and Bencini, 2015). Consequences can
62 impact extinction risks due to demographic bottlenecks, geographic barriers and low genetic
63 diversity (Dixo, Metzger, Morgante, and Zamudio, 2009; Taylor and Goldingay, 2010;
64 Yokochi, Kennington, and Bencini, 2016).

65

66 The preservation of high-quality forest habitats is vital for the conservation of global
67 biodiversity; nevertheless, they cannot be all strictly protected (Mortelliti, Amori, and
68 Boitani, 2010). Understanding wildlife's ability to survive and even thrive in fragmented
69 environments is becoming more and more important (Estrada et al., 2017). Conservation
70 approaches have been investigated to overcome fragmentation, and the creation of wildlife
71 corridors has been strongly discussed in the last decades (Gilbert-Norton, Wilson, Stevens,
72 and Beard, 2010; Hodgson, Hodgson, Moilanen, Wintle, and Thomas, 2011; Naidoo et al.,
73 2018). Wildlife corridors are essential in population management strategies by ensuring
74 connection between fragmented habitats isolated by deforestation and other human activities
75 (Arroyo-Rodríguez and Mandujano, 2009). Human-implemented wildlife crossings are a
76 popular type of corridor used to help achieve canopy connectivity, but their impact is not
77 always assessed (van der Grift and van der Ree, 2015; Yokochi and Bencini, 2015).

78 Researchers who have assessed wildlife crossings have shown that a variety of them,
79 including artificial and natural canopy bridges, road underpasses and green bridges are a
80 successful means of passage for different mammalian taxa, for example, dormice (*Glis glis*)
81 (Georgii et al., 2011), western ring-tailed possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) (Yokochi
82 and Bencini, 2015), squirrel gliders (*Petaurus norfolcensis*) (Taylor, Walker, Goldingay,
83 Ball, and van der Ree, 2011), grizzly (*Ursus arctos*) and black bears (*U. americanus*)
84 (Sawaya, Kalinowski, and Clevenger, 2014).

85

86 In the case of arboreal primate species, such studies have lagged behind, but are now
87 necessary as primary forests disappear at an alarming rate (Estrada et al., 2017). The
88 conversion of forests to agriculture affects the availability of feeding resources and sleeping
89 trees for primates (Das, Biswas, Bhattacharjee, and Rao, 2009a; Arroyo-Rodríguez and
90 Mandujano, 2009). Arboreal primates may need to perform terrestrial behaviors to cross
91 disconnected areas within their home ranges (Lokschin et al., 2007; Das et al., 2009a; Mas et
92 al., 2011; Donaldson and Cunneyworth, 2015). The lack of connectivity imposes costs such
93 as high mortality due to predators or road collisions (Mass et al., 2011), dietary changes
94 (Onderdonk and Chapman, 2000; Das et al., 2009a), home range modifications (Onderdonk
95 and Chapman, 2000; Bicca-Marques, 2003) and increased physiological stress and parasite
96 loads (Chapman et al., 2006). Artificial canopy bridges can be used to replace the lack of
97 connectivity between fragments occupied by primates (Valladares-Padua et al., 1995;
98 Teixeira et al., 2013; Lindshield, 2016; Table 1). Designed from different materials (rope,
99 ladder, rubber, pole, bamboo), they can represent efficient structures for dispersal, travelling
100 or foraging movements (Das et al., 2009a).

101

102 The island of Java, Indonesia, is highly populated and largely deforested, with less than 10%
103 of the original forest left (Whitten, Soeriaatmadja, and Afiff, 1996; Margono, Potapov,
104 Turubanova, Stolle, and Hansen, 2014). Contrary to other areas of Indonesia, deforestation
105 occurred mainly before the year 2000 and current deforestation rates are low (Margono et al.,
106 2014; Brun et al., 2015). In the 90s, it was reported that about 17% of the agricultural land on
107 Java consisted of fragmented forests surrounded by agroforest environments (Whitten et al.,
108 1996). Forest has been replaced by a mosaic of cities, villages, and agricultural forest
109 plantations (Nijman, 2013). In this study, we examined the impact of the implementation of
110 artificial canopy bridges on the habitat use of Javan slow loris (*Nycticebus javanicus*) in an
111 agroforestry environment. The Javan slow loris is listed as Critically Endangered due to
112 habitat loss and persecution for the illegal wildlife trade (Nekaris, 2016). Slow lorises are
113 fully arboreally adapted and cannot leap and require canopy connectivity for movement
114 (Nekaris, 2014). Some loris species, however, have been observed to use terrestrial
115 movements in disconnected habitats, but only rarely and with caution (Das, Biswas, Das,
116 Ray, Sangma, and Bhattacharjee, 2009b; Nekaris, Spaan, Nijman, 2019). Reinhardt,
117 Wirdateti, and Nekaris (2016) showed that the lack of connectivity of feeding trees was
118 related to a decrease in activity by Javan slow lorises. The ability of slow loris populations to
119 persist in intensively human-modified and fragmented landscapes thus depends on the

120 restoration of canopy connectivity. We expect that, after the erection of canopy bridges,
121 Javan slow lorises will 1) use bridges as artificial canopy; 2) expand their home ranges to
122 include previously disconnected areas; 3) reduce terrestrial movements; 4) reduce exploring
123 and travelling time or increase the number of feeding trees visited.

124

125 **Methods**

126

127 *Field site*

128 We conducted the study in an agroforest environment in Cipaganti, Cisurupan, Garut District,
129 West Java (7°16'44.30"S, 107°46'7.80"E). Cipaganti is located at 1345 m a.s.l. on Mount
130 Puntang, which is a part of the Java-Bali Montane Rain Forests ecoregion. This area is
131 characterized by a mosaic of gardens, where local farmers practice an annual rotating crop
132 system (Nekaris et al., 2017). This traditional system consists of a variety of crop formations,
133 with tall trees planted along farm property boundaries, or interspersed between crop types
134 (Reinhardt et al., 2016).

135

136 *Slow loris behavioral observations and home ranges*

137 We examined the behavior of Javan slow lorises in relation to erection of artificial canopy
138 bridges, as part of an ongoing long-term community conservation project on the species
139 started in 2012. For this study, we focused our data collection and analysis on seven adult
140 collared individuals (four females and three males) four of which were part of mated pairs.
141 Slow lorises were caught safely by hand and were equipped with 19 g VHF radio collars
142 (PIP3, Biotrack, Wareham, United Kingdom). With the assistance of local trackers, we
143 located collared individuals using an antenna (Lintec flexible, Biotrack, Wareham, United
144 Kingdom) and a receiver (Sika receiver, Biotrack, Wareham, United Kingdom). We observed
145 focal individuals at night throughout their entire active period (1700 h – 0500 h), using head
146 torches (HL17 super spot, Clulite, Petersfield, United Kingdom) fitted with red filters. We
147 collected behavioral data following the instantaneous focal sampling method (Altmann,
148 1974) and location data using a handheld GPS unit (GPS62s, Garmin International, Olathe,
149 USA), both at the same five-minute intervals. Via instantaneous focal sampling, we collected
150 data on number of trees used, and proportion of data points spent travelling and exploring
151 (c.f. Rode-Margono, Nijman, Wirdateti, and Nekaris, 2014). We collected data on

152 terrestriality (i.e. distance and duration of time spent on the ground) via the all occurrences
153 method (Altmann, 1974).

154

155 *Artificial connectivity and use monitoring*

156 In order to improve connectivity in the study site, we implemented one bridge in June 2016
157 and six bridges between June and July 2017. They were built to connect disconnected trees
158 that were separated by agricultural fields. We built two different types of artificial wildlife
159 crossings: “loris bridge” and “waterline”. We made four loris bridges by using rubber
160 wrapped around a 1.5 cm width wire and three waterline bridges from rigid 3 cm diameter
161 water pipe tied to a wire (Figure 1). A wire was used as a support to ensure stability and to
162 minimize breaks during storms. We considered two important criteria when erecting
163 waterlines to favor farmers as well: access to source water and positive slope to allow the
164 flow of water. We installed bridges at a mean height of $4.2 \text{ m} \pm \text{SD } 1.4$ (range: 2-8 m)
165 attached to trees with a mean height of $9.1 \text{ m} \pm \text{SD } 2.9$ (range: 4-15 m). The mean rubber
166 bridge length was $37.75 \text{ m} \pm \text{SD } 14.05$ (range: 29-56 m), while the mean waterline length
167 was $75 \text{ m} \pm \text{SD } 32.2$ (range: 26-82 m). To monitor efficiently the use of bridges by slow
168 lorises, we set up motion triggered infrared cameras (Bushnell HD model 119836) at
169 extremities of all bridges the day they were implemented. We set up cameras to take three
170 photos per capture with a delay of 3 seconds. We considered the events in which the same
171 animal crossed the bridges and not the number of pictures since the animals were easily
172 recognizable. Camera traps also recorded videos associated with each crossing, which we
173 used to analyze the prevalence of three behaviors (travelling, alert, social; c.f. Rode-Margono
174 et al. 2014). We examined camera trap photos and videos from June 2016 to April 2018.
175 Camera traps collected data for a maximum of 266 days (mean= $195 \pm \text{SD } 85$ days), yielding
176 a total trapping effort of 741 days on waterlines and 820 days on rubber bridges.

177

178 *Data analysis*

179 Considering behavioral observations on the seven focal animals, we compared the data
180 collected three months before and three months after the installation of bridges. We excluded
181 the first month after the installation of bridges since we considered it as habituation period.
182 We collected a total of 179.67 h and 162.09 h of observations before and after the
183 implementation of bridges respectively. We computed the ranging patterns (in hectares) of
184 the seven individuals via Fixed Kernel (FK) method with smoothing selected by least-squares

185 cross-validation (LSCVh) (Seaman et al., 1999) using the software Ranges 9. We considered
186 home ranges at 95% FK (Seaman et al., 1999). We exported the shapefiles to ArcGIS 10.4
187 software for graphical visualization. To test for statistical differences between the behaviors
188 before and after the installation of bridges, we used the Wilcoxon test for paired samples. We
189 considered home ranges, distance walked and time spent on the ground, number of feeding
190 trees used per hour, and proportion of data points spent travelling and exploring as dependent
191 variables. We performed the tests via SPSS v25 considering $P < 0.05$ as level of significance.

192

193 All research was approved by the Animal Care Subcommittee of Oxford Brookes University
194 and followed the American Society of Primatologists (ASP) Principles for Ethical Treatment
195 of Non-human Primates. All research adhered to the legal and ethical guidelines of the
196 Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Department of Wildlife and Department of Forestry.

197

198 **RESULTS**

199 Camera traps collected a total of 817 events of slow lorises using bridges (463 events on
200 waterlines and 354 events on rubber bridges). From camera trap footage, we found that slow
201 lorises used both waterlines and rubber bridges on average $12.9 \pm \text{SD } 9.7$ days after we
202 installed them (waterlines: mean= $10.3 \pm \text{SD } 9.7$ days; rubber bridges: mean= $14.4 \pm \text{SD } 10.4$
203 days; Figure 2). Slow lorises continued to use the bridges for the whole duration of the study.
204 They used waterlines for travelling in 77.3 % of the observations, being alert 17.7% of
205 observations, the lorises engaged in social activities for 5.0%, with up to three slow lorises
206 crossing at once. Slow lorises used loris bridges mainly for travelling (97.2% of observations)
207 and only in 2.8 % of events they were alert.

208

209 From behavioral observations, we found that two males (AL and TO) and three females (OE,
210 TE, and XE) expanded their home ranges after the installation of bridges (Table 2, Figure 3).
211 The home range size before and after the installation of bridges was not statistically different,
212 although there is a trend towards larger home ranges after the installation of bridges (before:
213 median=2.57 ha, quartiles=2.37-2.84 ha; after: median=4.11 ha, quartiles=3.46-4.30 ha;
214 $W=1.859$, $p=0.063$).

215

216 After the installation of bridges, slow lorises diminished the distance spent on the ground
217 (before: median=1.15 m/h, quartiles=0.40-1.70 m/h; after: median=0.10 m/h, quartiles=0.04-
218 0.48 m/h; $W=-2.197$, $p=0.028$). The actual time spent on the ground was not statistically

219 different, although there is a trend towards less time spent on the ground after the installation
220 of bridges (before: median=5.98 s/h, quartiles=3.37-16.77 s/h; after: median=0.43 s/h,
221 quartiles=0.03-5.20 m/h; $W=-1.859$, $p=0.063$). The number of feeding trees used per hour did
222 not change after the installation of bridges (before: median=0.35 trees/h, quartiles=0.24-0.42
223 trees/h; after: median=0.30 trees/h, quartiles=0.18-0.53 trees/h; $W=0.507$, $p=0.612$). The
224 proportion of data points spent travelling and exploring, however, significantly decreased
225 after the installation of bridges (before: median=36.65 % of the observations,
226 quartiles=34.93-42.32 %; after: median=24.64 % of the observations, quartiles=20.87-34.71
227 %; $W=-2.366$, $p=0.018$) (Table 2).

228

229 **DISCUSSION**

230 We built artificial canopy bridges in a fragmented agroforest environment in West Java,
231 Indonesia to evaluate the effect that wildlife bridges had on a Javan slow loris population in
232 terms of crossing gaps. We found that slow lorises used all of the rubber bridges and
233 waterlines we erected to cross gaps over areas with limited to no arboreal connectivity. After
234 implementation of the bridges, slow lorises started to use bridges for complete crossings after
235 an average of 12.9 days. This time period is similar to that recorded for western ringtail
236 possums (*Pseudocheirus occidentalis*) in Australia and Hoolock gibbons (*Hoolock hooklock*)
237 in India (Yokochi and Bencini, 2015; Das et al., 2009a). After the habituation period, slow
238 lorises used the bridges for the remaining study period (Little Fireface Project, unpublished
239 data). Locomotion across bridges was swift and efficient. Slow lorises could move on the top
240 or underneath the bridges, and in this manner, could cross with social group members or
241 other species (c.f. Das et al., 2009a; Teixeira, Printes, Fagundes, Alonso, and Kindel, 2013).
242 Bridge use has been safe, with no animals falling from or gaining an injury from bridge use
243 or suffering predation whilst on a bridge. Here we discuss bridge use in the context of slow
244 loris behavior and conservation.

245

246 Various studies have demonstrated that mammals, including primates, are able to adapt to
247 fragmented habitats (Luckett, Danforth, Linsenhardt, and Pruetz, 2004). For tree dwelling
248 species, bridges as artificial wildlife crossings are a good temporary solution to improve
249 connectivity in fragmented habitats (Das et al., 2009a). All slow lorises included in this study
250 made use of both types of bridges. Testing styles of bridge is important, as in an initial pilot
251 study, we unsuccessfully trialed a ladder type bridge that had been successfully employed for
252 black and white colobus monkeys (*Colobus angolensis palliatus*) (Donaldson and

253 Cunneyworth, 2015). By employing two additional styles of bridge, not only were we
254 successful, but slow lorises used both types, as also seen in six different lemur species in
255 eastern Madagascar (Mass et al., 2011). Rubber and waterline bridges may also have been
256 more successful for slow lorises because of their propensity to grasp small substrates around
257 which they can clasp their hands (Rode-Margono et al., 2014). Despite the potentially loris-
258 specific size of the bridges, all seven bridges we built were used by other animal species,
259 including Javan palm civets (*Paradoxurus musanga javanicus*), black-striped squirrels
260 (*Callosciurus nigrovittatus*), Horsfield's treeshrews (*Tupaia javanica*), as well as by owls and
261 other bird species. Civets, however, only used the waterline structures, and were not
262 observed using the rubber structures. These observations concur with Goosem, Weston, and
263 Bhushnell (2005), who demonstrated that canopy bridges are not species-selective but can
264 provide benefits for non-focal species.

265

266 Canopy bridges allowed slow lorises to include areas in their home ranges that were
267 previously disconnected. In particular, they used bridges to connect either to patches that
268 previously only could be accessed via the ground or were able to add new areas to their home
269 range (c.f. Gregory, Carrasco-Rueda, Alonso, Kolowski, and Deichmann, 2017). In all cases,
270 focal slow lorises used both sides of the bridges, although we have observed animals in our
271 population using bridges in only one direction during dispersal events. Other taxa, including
272 Hoolock gibbons in India and black and white colobus monkeys in Kenya, also used both
273 sides of the bridges (Das et al., 2009a; Donaldson and Cunneyworth, 2015). Rainforest
274 ringtail possums, however, only occasionally used the habitat on the opposite side of the
275 bridge, with numerous 'half crossings' observed (Wilson, Marsh, and Winter 2007).
276 Although home range sizes were not significantly larger, in a highly fragmented landscape,
277 the importance of access to additional resources cannot be underestimated.

278

279 Increasing home range size and having better access across the landscape also may be
280 reflected in reducing exploring or travelling time or increasing the number of feeding trees
281 visited (Gregory et al., 2017). Indeed, slow lorises spent a lower proportion of data points
282 travelling in search of food resources after the implementation of the bridges, although they
283 still visited the same number of feeding trees per hour. The presence of the bridges may
284 significantly increase the survival of the individuals. Slow lorises, in fact, spent a lower
285 proportion of data points travelling through their home range to search for resources, which

286 may allow them to save energy (i.e. time minimizer strategy; Hixon 1982, Campera et al.,
287 2014). The viability of a species depends not only on its population size but also on its habitat
288 structure and on the movement of individuals between habitat patches (Valladares-Padua et
289 al., 1995). The canopy bridges that we constructed in this study connected trees in lorises home
290 ranges and therefore created access to new habitable areas and feeding resources. They
291 reduced isolation between individuals and encouraged dispersal. Das et al. (2009a) also found
292 that Hoolock gibbons had access to previously disconnected areas as well as new food
293 resources after the installation of bridges.

294

295 Only a handful of studies concerning primate use of canopy bridges have been reported (e.g.
296 Mass et al., 2011; Teixeira et al., 2013; but see Donaldson and Cunnyworth, 2015; Table 1).
297 We found that not only did slow lorises use bridges almost nightly, but that they also engaged
298 in fewer terrestrial behaviors after the implementation of the bridges. Habitat fragmentation
299 may increase arboreal primate mortality (Das et al., 2009a). With a lack of connectivity,
300 primates have no choice but to walk on the ground, increasing the risk of predation (Silva and
301 Bicca-Marques, 2013), as well as the risk of disease and parasites (Chapman et al., 2006).
302 Farmers in our study area use dogs to guard their land and to hunt. Dogs are left at night in
303 the field and may be aggressive. Since 2012, despite a lack of other predation events, at least
304 four slow lorises have been injured or killed by dogs in Cipaganti. Dogs are frequent in the
305 fields and are probably the second greatest threat to slow lorises in the area after hunting by
306 humans. Thus, an increase in arboreal connectivity may reduce the risk of injury or death to
307 these Critically Endangered primates.

308 Clearly an increase in arboreal pathways is a desired impact of long-term conservation
309 projects. To achieve this goal, habitat restoration schemes such as forest corridors are
310 ultimately the most desirable (Harris, 1984). Corridors can be implemented in degraded
311 habitats to restore connectivity between natural forest areas (Ganzhorn, 1987). Nevertheless,
312 forest corridors are not always easy to implement, as they may cross privately owned human
313 properties, whose landlords may not always be willing to collaborate (Valladares-Padua et
314 al., 1995; Alexander, 2000; Gibson, Lehoucq, and Williams, 2002; Wyman and Stein 2010).
315 A solution to this conflict may be the planting of tree corridors, with trees that have value to
316 local communities or land-owners whether they be native species or not. Primates can benefit
317 from these corridors by using them for travelling and resting and may exploit non-native tree
318 species as new food sources (Ganzhorn, 1985, 1987; Lockett, 2004). Javan slow lorises often

319 consume the nectar of *Calliandra callothrysus*, and gum of *Acacia decurrens*, two invasive
320 species planted by farmers for nitrogen fixation of the soil (Rode-Margono et al., 2014). In
321 the midst of controversy over rewilding highly degraded areas with native or non-native
322 species, artificial canopy bridges remain a temporary solution until implications of choice of
323 species used in habitat restoration are decided (Hansen, 2010).

324

325 The conservation value of the type of wildlife crossings used in our heavily fragmented study
326 site cannot be overlooked, and lessons learned in this study can be applied to other arboreal
327 primates living in fragmented landscapes. Firstly, canopy bridges may increase slow loris
328 population persistence in the study area by providing safer routes for animals and more
329 opportunities for animal dispersal and gene exchange (Yokochi et al., 2016). Secondly,
330 wildlife crossing structures need not be only built for wildlife but may serve other functions
331 such as water drainage or access to ecosystem services by humans (van der Ree et al., 2017).
332 The waterline bridges implemented in our study play an important role in community
333 involvement in their long-term maintenance, since they are used by farmers for crop
334 irrigation. We conducted several outreach events with local farmers before the
335 implementation of bridges, including one-on-one interviews, focus groups and workshops
336 (Nekaris, 2016). The aim of these events was not only to obtain the permission of farmers to
337 implement bridges on their properties, but also to identify the needs of farmers who did not
338 yet possess water irrigation. The local perception regarding the importance of primates to
339 forest ecology is often missing in conservation interventions (Parathian and Maldonado,
340 2010; Stafford, Alarcon-Valenzuela, Patiño, Preziosi, and Sellers, 2016; Lindshield, Bogart,
341 Gueye, Ndiaye, and Pruetz, 2019). Before our project started, the community felt that it was
342 acceptable to catch and sell slow lorises or to ignore these activities by outsiders, even though
343 this trade is illegal (Nijman and Nekaris, 2014). As part of the bridge implementation, we
344 conducted education sessions and held bi-annual community outreach events to inform the
345 local community about the ecological value of slow lorises as pollinators and insect pest
346 consumers (Nekaris, 2016; Nekaris, McCabe, Spaan, Imron, and Nijman, 2018). The
347 implementation of waterline bridges as a water source for farmers only increased the local
348 value of slow lorises. As of October 2019, all bridges implemented in our study are still
349 standing and used by slow lorises. We attribute this success to the intense monitoring of our
350 study animals alongside regular community outreach and involvement. The days are past
351 when outsiders can enter a new area and engage in conservation interventions without the

352 support of the local community, and we encourage others to include as much involvement as
353 possible with local people when developing similar projects.

354

355 **Acknowledgements**

356 We thank Indonesian RISTEK and the regional Perhutani and BKSDA for authorizing the
357 study. Amersfoort Zoo, Augsburg Zoo, Brevard Zoo, Cleveland Zoo and Zoo Society,
358 Columbus Zoo and Aquarium, Cotswolds Wildlife Park, Disney Worldwide Conservation
359 Fund, Ernst Kleinwald Foundation, Henry Doorly Zoo, International Primate Protection
360 League, Lee Richardson Zoo, Little Fireface Project, Mohamed bin al Zayed Species
361 Conservation Fund (152511813), Margot Marsh Biodiversity Fund, Marjorie Coote
362 Foundation, Memphis Zoo, Moody Gardens Zoo, National Geographic (GEFNE101-13),
363 Naturzoo Rhein, Paradise Wildlife Park, People's Trust for Endangered Species, Phoenix
364 Zoo, Primate Action Fund, Sacramento Zoo, Shaldon Wildlife Trust, Sophie Danforth
365 Conservation Biology Fund, and ZGAP provided the funding for this project. We thank our
366 field team M. Abid, E. Brown, R. Cibabuddhea, L. Fransson, M. Harmansyah, L. Holland,
367 Y. Nazmi, A. Nunur, D. Rustandi, M. Sigaud, D. Spaan, M. Vergniol, and A. Zaelany. We
368 thank A. Walmsley for photographs. Two reviewers and the editor provided valuable
369 comments.

370

371 **Conflicts of Interest:**

372 Authors have no conflicts of interest to report.

373

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670 Table 1. Summary of research publications documenting wildlife crossings for primates and their ecological benefits.

671 NA: information not available SYS: systematic quantitative study, UNS: qualitative unsystematic study

672

Type	Material	Number	Length (m)	Study country	Study period	Habituation period	Collection method	Primate Species	Ecological benefits	Reference
Ladder	rope, rubber	2	NA	Brazil	3 years	NA	UNS	<i>Alouatta guariba clamitans</i>	Minimize mortality	Lokschin et al., 2007
	rope, rubber	6	NA	Brazil	15 months	NA	SYS	<i>A. g. clamitan</i>	Minimize mortality; increase resource access	Teixeria et al., 2013
	PVC, rubber, wire cable	28	NA	Kenya	“Several months”	NA	SYS	<i>Cercopithecus albogularis</i> ; <i>Colobus angolensis</i> ; <i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	Minimize mortality	Donaldson and Cunneyworth, 2015
	PVC, rubber, wire cable	7	10-30	Costa Rica	2 non-consecutive years	NA	SYS	<i>A. palliata</i>	Minimize mortality; reduce isolation	Lindshield, 2016
	wood	1	NA	Brazil	3 years	NA	UNS	<i>Leontopithecus chrysopygus</i> ; <i>Cebus apella</i>	Minimize mortality; reduce isolation	Valladares-Padua et al., 1995
	bamboo	9	7–25	India	2 months	15 days	SYS	<i>Hoolock hoolock</i>	Minimize terrestrial locomotion; increase resource access	Das et al., 2009
Linear	wire cable, wood	3	8-15	Madagascar	18 months	NA	SYS	<i>Avahi laniger</i> ; <i>Cheirogaleus major</i> ; <i>Eulemur fulvus</i> ; <i>E. rubriventer</i> <i>Propithecus diadema</i> ; <i>Hapalemur griseus</i>	Minimize mortality	Mass et al., 2011
	wood	4	22-25							
	rope	NA	NA	Costa Rica	NA	NA	NA	<i>Saimiri oerstedii</i> ; <i>Cebus imitator</i>	Minimize mortality	Martin, 2012 Unpublished
	rope	7	10-30	Costa Rica	7 years	NA	SYS	<i>Alouatta palliata</i>	Minimize mortality; reduce isolation	Lindshield, 2016

pipeline	13	415	Peru	1 year	NA	SYS	<i>Aotus nigriceps; Sapajus apella; Cebus albifrons; Pithecia irrorata; Saguinus imperator; Callicebus brunneus; Saguinus fuscicollis</i>	Reduce fragmentation	Gregory et al., 2017
rope	NA	NA	Thailand	5 months	NA	UNS	<i>Hylobates lar</i>	Reduce fragmentation	Saralamba and Menpreeda, 2018
fire hose	NA	5m	Malaysia	NA	NA	NA	<i>Trachypithecus obscurus</i>	Minimize collision	Langur Project Penang (LPP), Unpublished
fire hose, ropes, chain links	6	NA	Malaysia	NA	4 years	UNS	<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i>	Reduce isolation; favor dispersal	Ancrenaz 2010; Lombardi, 2017

673

674

675

676 **Table 2:** Home range size, terrestriality (distance and time), number of feeding trees used, and percentage of sample points spent exploring and travelling by
 677 the seven focal Javan slow lorises in Cipaganti, West Java, before and after the implementation of bridges.

678

Bridge structure	ID	Pre-bridge implementation						Post-bridge implementation					
		Observation time (h)	Home range size (ha)	Terrestrial distance (m/h)	Terrestrial time (s/h)	Feeding trees (N/h)	% explore + travel	Observation time (h)	Home range size (ha)	Terrestrial distance (m/h)	Terrestrial time (s/h)	Feeding trees (N/h)	% explore + travel
Waterline	A	34.75	2.00	3.60	18.3	0.23	34.53	27.17	6.77	0.67	1.62	0.22	23.31
Waterline	L												
Waterline	T	31.83	2.22	1.82	0.82	0.25	36.65	26.42	4.36	0.00	0.00	0.30	25.24
Waterline	E												
Waterline	X	20.25	3.33	0.25	5.93	0.35	38.27	27.58	3.05	0.00	0.00	0.15	18.43
Waterline	E												
Rubber	FE	22.25	2.93	1.57	20.22	0.09	20.97	18.17	4.11	0.77	11.56	0.06	11.93
Rubber	O	30.67	2.57	0.03	0.16	0.42	57.88	30.75	4.23	0.10	0.07	1.33	44.17
Rubber	E												
Rubber	S	21.75	2.74	1.15	5.98	0.41	46.36	20.50	2.11	0.59	8.78	0.63	44.31
Rubber	H												
Rubber	T	18.17	2.52	0.55	15.41	0.44	35.32	11.50	3.86	0.09	0.43	0.43	24.64
Rubber	O												

679

680 **Figure Headings:**

681 **Figure 1:** Photos of the two types of bridges used in the study of Javan slow lorises in Cipaganti,
682 West Java: waterline made with water pipe (left) and of the 'loris bridge' made with rubber material
683 (right).

684

685 **Figure 2:** Mean (in black) and range (in gray) cumulative number of crossings on waterlines (left)
686 and rubber bridges (right) by Javan slow loris in Cipaganti, West Java, based on camera trap data.

687

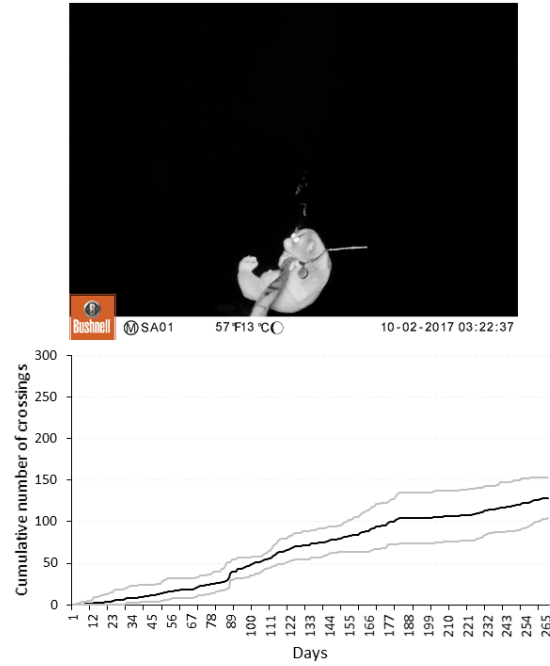
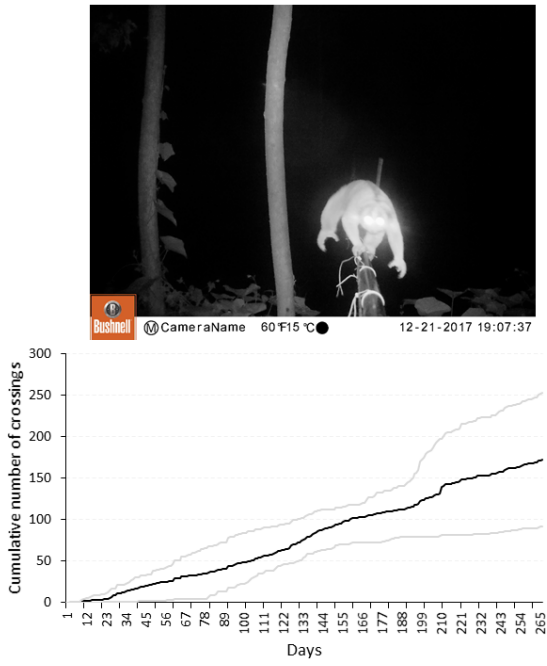
688 **Figure 3:** Home ranges of female (above) and male (below) Javan slow lorises before and after the
689 installation of bridges in Cipaganti, West Java. Rubber bridges are in black, waterlines are in blue.

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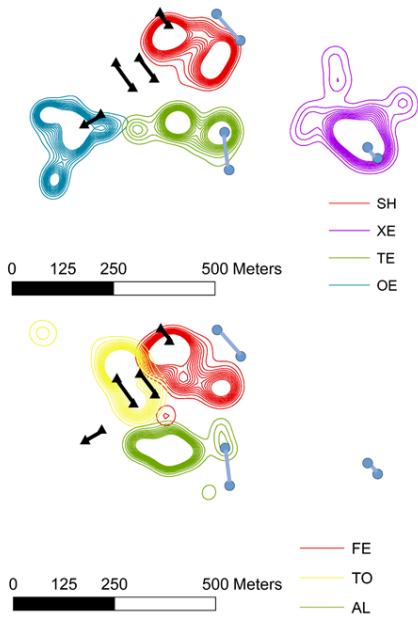


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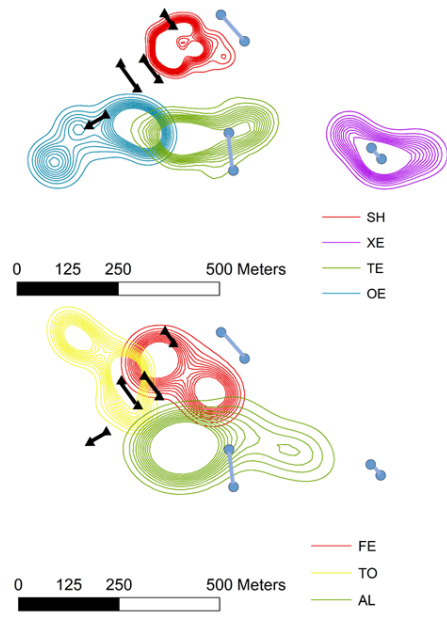


693

Three months before



Three months after



694

695