

What types of birds do you know from Papua? Let us guess, most of you probably answered "cenderawasih"--the bird of paradise, or "maleo". But what about *burung gosong Papua* ("scorched bird")?

If you never heard about "burung gosong Papua", then you are definitely not Papuan. You see, the bird is an endemic species that only exists in Papua. Gosong Papua (*Megapodius decollatus*) or also called Maleo Papua, which spreads in the Land of Papua and North New Guinea, is a bird species from the megapod group. This bird uses the soil as a place for incubating and hatching eggs. Apart from Papua, several types of Gosong species are also found in other Southeast Asian regions.

Although it is endemic and worthy of being studied, research on Gosong Papua is still minimal. An in-depth study of the characteristics of nests and species needs to be done to identify the Gosong Papua in more detail. Fortunately, we have Ivan Jeremy J. Palege, a 7th-semester student from the Biology study program, Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences, Cenderawasih University, who did it. The man of Tobelo descent, Halmahera, who is usually called Jeremy, represented Cenderawasih University at the Mathematics and Natural Sciences Olympiad at the provincial level in 2017 and 2018. In addition, he also was the Chairman of the Biology Commissariat and the Head of the Biology Student Association, Cendrawasih University. Such a smart and accomplished guy!

At the 2020 Young Papuan Scientist competition, Jeremy studied the habitat and population of Gosong Papua in Soaib Village, Jayapura Regency, Papua Province. Jeremy chose Soaib Village for it is one of the areas where Gosong Papua spreads in the northern region of Papua. The research was conducted in December 2020 through the cruising observation method in the primary and secondary forests of Kampung Aib. Then, the data obtained were analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively.

His research shows that the estimated nests of Gosong Papua in primary and secondary forests are 93 nests and 81 nests, respectively, with the nest density of 0.38/ha for primary forest and 1.2/ha for the secondary forest. The nest of Gosong Papua has physical characteristics in the form of a high average, and diameters for primary forest are 0.75 m and 4.95 m, respectively, then for secondary forest are 0.63 m and 4.43 m, respectively. Meanwhile, there are also non-physical characteristics in the form of an air temperature of 28.25 °C with humidity of 88.25 percent in primary forest, also air temperature of 27.6 °C, and humidity of 71 percent in secondary forest. Nest cover material consists of litter, nagging wood from trees, and vegetation around the nest.

Studying Gosong Papua is one of the best contributions to support the protection of Papua's biodiversity. We still need so many young people like Jeremy who are interested in learning the

richness of the Land of Papua in order to maintain its sustainability. Follow Jeremy's steps by becoming a Young Papuan Scientist!