

Migratory Birds in Pulau Patok—Bruit National Park

By

Akira Mizutani

(JOCV Volunteer)

Abstract

Surveys on waterbirds including migrants have been conducted to devise the conservation program at Pulau Bruit and Patok. Data on the species composition, number, feeding area and so forth has been accumulated. Recorded waterbirds were waders 31sp. (include records in the 1980's by INTERAWADER & NPWO; +3sp.), egrets and herons 11sp. (+3sp.), seabirds 11sp., storks 1sp., ducks 1sp., crakes and rails 3sp., and wetlands dependent raptors 2sp. Waders number changed seasonally. Southwards migration peak was 2,000 in Oct to Nov. Wintering was 1,000 in Jan. Northwards migration peak was 1,400 in Mar. As compared to the numbers recorded in Oct 1985, population size of waders during southwards migration decreased to about 20% around only the northern Pulau Bruit and Patok. The primary factor is assumed that mud-flats along the west and north coast of Pulau Bruit, which had supplied high concentration habitats in the past, was eroded by strong waves during the north-east monsoon. However, there are no evidences on relationship between the numbers and tidalflat environment, because there were no thorough monitoring until today. It is suggested that the most important subject is to determine the population dynamics of waterbirds by periodically and quantitatively monitoring for future conservation.