



## Census 2020 Spring Parosphromenus-Project: Comments

This document describes the relevant aspects of the outcome of the Spring census 2020.

It aims to highlight developments on a short-term basis and to supplement the reader of the general synopsis with an overview on the most important changes with respect to the spring census.

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Period of data collection: 01.04.2020 – 16.05.2020

### **Participation** (including negative reports): 35 →

The participation has remained stable, including the total of 5 negative reports. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, no report from Chester Zoo was recorded.

Pictograms used to assess the short-term trend:

↑: positive changes compared to past census

→: stable population and number of keepers

↓: negative developments, decreasing numbers of keepers and population

@: kept at institution/zoo (No data available in this Census period)

!: special situation/development

!! **HIGH RISK**: Species with high risk of getting lost in the near term

**IUCN**: (related comments in blue) Species listed by IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) as endangered. Special efforts are taken in cooperation with Chester Zoo to establish insurance populations with the most skilled breeders from our network.

***P. alfredi* → IUCN**

We see a **rising trend in the “Sedili”** numbers.

The species is part of the Parosphromenus Project cooperation with Chester Zoo/IUCN to maintain ‘insurance populations’, and is currently being held by few breeders only, who will maintain and seek to increase numbers. It will not be distributed unless a certain size of population within the insurance populations has been reached. IUCN-godfathers: Hallmann, Bussler, Perrin and Schoubye

***P. allani* →**

After decreased reporting last fall, keepers have returned for the “Sibu” variant and the **situation has slightly improved**. Overall the numbers nevertheless remain low despite some **progress on the breeding front**.

***P. anjunganensis* →**

The **positive trend** observed last year **has levelled out** with a decrease in keepers. **Breeding was successful** in the tanks of Scheffer, Windfuhr and Hallmann which might lead to potential redistribution in the future.

***P. bintan* ↑**

The **large base of keepers** is very positive with **several reported breeding events**. This species has for a long time been a **showcase of successful conservation** and remains in great shape.

***P. deissneri* → !! HIGH RISK**

Constantly low breeder base with ongoing redistribution through Bussler is **fragile but promising**. Further efforts are required to **preserve this iconic species**.

Serious efforts are being made that this species becomes listed at the IUCN RED LIST, and until this is achieved, efforts will be made to establish ‘insurance populations’ for this species as well, therefore this will hopefully very soon also be listed as an IUCN PROTECTED SPECIES. Potential godfather: Bussler

***P. filamentosus* ↓ @**

**Decreased number of reports** might be due to the non-participation of some keepers. The novel variant “Siong” was **successfully bred with potential for redistribution** of offspring.

***P. gunawani* ↑ !**

Reported by two keepers. **Identification remains somewhat unclear**. If the reported fish are actual gunawani, breeding efforts should be intensified to strengthen the population.

***P. harveyi* ↑**

**Novel participants report new private imports**. Successful breeding occurred twice and overall population is rising. Furthermore, **novel forms** were reported by Hallmann.

***P. linkei* → @**

Numbers across the main variations are **stable**. Unclear situation in Chester Zoo, it appears reasonable to assume the continued presence of “linkei” there.

***P. nanyi* →**

“Sedili” **reported again**. Slight decrease in the number of reports but nevertheless, this is a rather popular species with good breeding successes. **Distribution to new keepers** should be a priority.

***P. opallios*** ↑ @

**New reports by private keepers.** Promising breeding by Bussler might allow for future distribution.

***P. ornatICAUDA*** ↑

Small but stable number of keepers with **successes in breeding**. The difficulty of this species might make its sustained distribution to other keepers difficult. Nevertheless, **efforts towards a larger base of keepers** should be taken.

***P. pahuensis*** →

**Great successes in breeding** stabilize the population which unfortunately is **only reported by three keepers**. Potential wider distribution would be beneficial.

***P. paludicola*** → @

Overall stable numbers but unclear situation at Chester Zoo. **New keepers compensate** the non-participation of previously reporting. The **size of those two stocks is large and promising**.

***P. parvulus*** ↓

**Alarming developments on both the number of keepers and total individuals kept.** This might be representative of **the difficulty of this species**. Hopefully, a stabilization can be achieved in the near future.

***P. phoenicurus*** → @

**Generally stable population** with about 7 keepers. We see relatively **large changes in the reporting keepers** with only 3 having reported both last fall and this spring. It is thus likely that the **total number of breeders is substantially larger**.

***P. quindecim*** ↓! IUCN

This species unfortunately has **disappeared from all reports**. Potentially, small stocks are still present with a few keepers who did not participate.

This species is listed on the IUCN Red List as Critically endangered, though not currently in the work with Chester Zoo, but steps need to be taken to establish this species with out members, currently no report is critical.

***P. rubrimontis*** ↑!! HIGH RISK.

Large stock reported by Beissner. Overall, the situation remains difficult and there is a latent threat for *rubrimontis* to become extinct in the project.

Serious efforts are being made that this species becomes listed at the IUCN RED LIST, and until this is achieved, efforts will be made to establish 'insurance populations' for this species as well, therefore this will hopefully very soon also be listed as an IUCN PROTECTED SPECIES. Potential godfather: Beissner, Wegerer

***P. sumatranus*** →

Relatively **constant numbers** with one keeper not participating. The species is **kept by some of the most experienced breeders**. It would be desirable to **increase the base of keepers** in order to come to a sustainable pool of populations.

***P. tweediei*** ↑ IUCN

Strong rebound after a severe drop of last fall. We are approximately **back to the situation of last spring**. Offspring is present in the tanks of two keepers.

The species is part of the Parosphromenus Project cooperation with Chester Zoo/IUCN to maintain 'insurance populations', and is currently being held by few breeders only, who will maintain and seek to increase number. It will not be distributed unless a certain size of population within the insurance populations has been reached. IUCN-godfathers: Bussler and Perrin

**Other species**↑↑

Huge new report by Peukert of "*sp. Sentang*". It could be desirable to establish a large base of keepers of this species given its current abundance (over 100 individuals). A future effort should be taken in order to ensure identification as well as potentially scientifically describe this species. New wild-caught of "*sp. Endau rompin*" and "*sp. Batu Pahat/Ayer Hitam*" through Beyer should also lead to more sustainable populations. Novel introduction of "*spec. Beleitung Barat*". The general situation of these additional forms has been dramatically improved and can likely lead to larger and long-term stable populations.

**THE STATUS OF THE INSURANCE PROGRAMME – IN COOPERATION WITH CHESTER ZOO/IUCH JUNE 2020**

<b>Insurance Population Programme – in cooperation with Chester Zoo and IUCN (Godfather-programme)</b>				
<b>Species</b>	<b>Keeper</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Offspring</b>
<b>P. alfredi 'Sedili'</b>	Bussler	3	2	0
	Perrin	8	8	0
	Hallmann	3	3	40
<b>P. cf. alfredi (ruinemans, 2013)</b>	Schoubye	7	7	15
<b>P. tweediei (commercial trade)</b>	Bussler	0	0	25
	Perrin	3	3	?
<b>P. deissneri (Shi)</b>	Bussler	3	5	16
	(potential godfather) Wegener	1	2	0
<b>P. rubrimontis 'Bukit Merah' (Malaysia, Perak)</b>	(potential godfather) Beissner	10	12	0