

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *CALIDRIS MELANOTOS* ON SIBERUT, MENTAWAI ISLANDS, THE FIRST RECORD FOR SUMATRA, INDONESIA

IMAM TAUFIQURRAHMAN¹, ISMAEL SAUMANUK² & ARIF SETIAWAN³

¹ Yayasan Kutilang Indonesia, Kompleks UPT Taman Kuliner Condongcatur Blok K1-K3 Jl. Anggajaya III Condongcatur, Depok, Sleman Yogyakarta 55283, INDONESIA.

Email: ornyman18@gmail.com

² Puro 2, Muntei village, Siberut Selatan subdistrict, Kepulauan Mentawai, West Sumatra, INDONESIA.

³ SwaraOwa, Plosokuning 4 no 85, Minomartani, Nganglik, Sleman, Yogyakarta, 55281, INDONESIA.

Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* is a rare migrant in Indonesia and has only been recorded recently at two locations. The first location is Pantai Trisik, Yogyakarta, Java, on 12 October 2012 (Assiddiqi *et al.* 2014). After the first sighting, there were further records of the species from the area during 2013 and 2014 consisting of one to two birds (Bionic Bird Club *Unpub. Data*). The only other location for the species is Serangan Island, Bali, where a single bird was observed on 19 August 2015 (Jones & Trainor 2016).

On 21 September 2017, we visited Muara Siberut (01° 35.968' S, 99° 13.036' E), an estuary located on the east coast of Siberut Island, Mentawai Islands, West Sumatra, Indonesia. At around 5.30 pm, we saw an unfamiliar medium-sized shorebird that appeared slightly bigger than Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*, but smaller than Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum* that was observed nearby. The bird was standing on pieces of twigs and trash deposited along the sand beach. The sighting was only for a few seconds before the bird flew off out of sight. Fortunately, a photograph was secured during the sighting (Figure 1).

The bill was slightly down-curved, rather pointed, and slightly longer than its head in proportion. Although the light conditions were poor, the bill was yellowish at the base and dark at the edge (Figure 1). The bird had a

dark brown crown, darker than its hind-neck – although this might be the result of the poor light condition – with whitish supercilium extending behind the eye. The upperparts were dark brown, with striking black and brown pattern, whitish underparts, and brown streaked neck.

From views in the field and the photograph, the bird was either a Sharp-tailed *C. acuminata* or a Pectoral Sandpiper. Unfortunately, neither during the sighting or in the photograph, are the straight pectoral band or the streaked under-tail coverts visible that would have distinguished this bird from Sharp-tailed Sandpiper. Other species that can be confused are Ruff *C. pugnax* and Long-toed Stint *C. subminuta*, however both could be ruled out on the basis on their significantly-different size. Discussion with experts and members of Bionic Bird Study Club whom are experienced with Pectoral Sandpiper, underpinned the bird's identification. This confirmed the bird as a Pectoral Sandpiper, mainly based on its rather decurved and proportionally long, and yellowish based-bill.

Our finding constitutes the first record for Siberut, and Sumatra as a whole (Adhikerana 1994, Kemp 2000, Iqbal *et al.* 2013). Close to Indonesia, the species is uncommon but regularly recorded in New Guinea (Bishop 2006) and once recorded in Timor Leste (Trainor 2005).



Figure 1. Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* on Muara Siberut, Siberut Island, showing its slightly down-curved and rather long bill, 21 September 2017. Photograph Imam Taufiqurrahman.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Visit to Siberut Island is a part of the work on the conservation of Kloss's Gibbon by SwaraOwa, funded by Wildlife Reserve Singapore, in which we are very thankful. Special thanks to Franky Sabattilat as the boatman and Damianus Tateburuk and his family for their warm acceptance during our stay in the Uma. We are grateful also to Muhammad Iqbal, Christoph Zockler, and to members of Kelompok Pengamat Burung Bionic of Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta (Bionic Bird Study Club), (alphabetically): Ahmad Syaiful Abid, Andri Nugroho, Mas Kir, Panji Gusti Akbar, Surya Purnama, Waskito Kuku Wibowo, and Zulqarnain Assiddiqi for the constructive discussion that confirming the species identification. We acknowledge Dr Greg Kerr and two anonymous reviewers for their assistance and constructive comments on the original manuscript.

REFERENCES

- Adhikerana, A.S.** 1994. Observation on the avifauna of Siberut Island, 1992-1994. *Treubia* 31(1):11-24.
- Assiddiqi, Z., S.Y. Azizah, L. Nazar, A.F. Rohmah, N. Rahmawan & H. Azmi** 2014. First Indonesian record of Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos*. *Kukila* 17(2):56-58.
- Bishop, K.D.** 2006. Shorebirds in New Guinea: their status, conservation and distribution. *Stilt* 50:103-134.
- Iqbal, M., H. Abdillah, A.Nurza, T.Wahyudi, Giyanto & M. Iqbal** 2013. A review of new and noteworthy shorebird records in Sumatra, Indonesia, during 2001–2011. *Wader Study Group Bulletin* 120(2):85-95.
- Jones, S. & C.R. Trainor** 2016. First record of Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* for Bali Island, Indonesia, at Serangan Island in Benoa Bay. *Wader Study* 123(1): 1-3.
- Kemp, N.** 2000. The birds of Siberut, Mentawai Islands, West Sumatra. *Kukila* 11:73-96.
- Trainor, C.R.** 2005. Waterbirds and coastal seabirds of Timor Leste (East Timor): status and distribution from surveys in August 2002–December 2004. *Forktail* 21:61-78.

