CHECKLIST OF BATS IN ULU MUDA FOREST RESERVE

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Abstract- Assessments on bats were conducted in Ulu Muda Forest Reserves on 19–25 September 2021 and 21 – 27 November 2021 respectively. This study aims to record and update bats' populations in this forest reserve. Active sampling was carried out within four compartments of Ulu Muda Forest Reserve, namely Compartment 127, 128, 104, and 105. A total of 10 mist nets were deployed in each compartment to capture frugivorous bats. Two harp traps were also set up in each compartment to trap insectivorous bats. In addition, a bat detector was also used to record the echolocation emitted by the insectivorous bats in the study areas. Overall, this study recorded 36 individuals of 12 species from 4 bat families. Of these, one frugivorous bat from family Pteropodidae (21 inds; 5spp) and three insectivorous bat families which are Hipposideridae (2 inds; 2spp), Rhinolophidae (12 inds; 4spp) and Vespertilionidae (1 ind; 1sp). The most abundant frugivorous bat recorded are Lesser shortnosed fruit bat (*Cynopterus brachyotis*) and for insectivorous bat, Intermediate horseshoe bat (*Rhinolophus affinis*). This insight is expected to assist the stakeholders in developing a management plan for the forest to be able to serve as an important habitat for the survival of bat populations.

Keywords: Checklist, bats, Ulu Muda forest reserve, frugivorous bats, insectivorous bats

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