GAME of DRONES

Brave New World of Drone Technology for Biodiversity Research & Conservation

Lian Pin Koh | Serge Wich

ConservationDrones.ORG
Precious wildlife

Illegal poaching

Himalayan foothills
Park protection

Himalayan foothills
Drone training

Footage from a ‘conservation drone’

Drone image: rhinos
What is a conservation drone?
Model aircraft + Autopilot + Payload + Software = Conservation Drone!
How do I fly a conservation drone?
Actually you don’t...

it flies itself!
Quick look

River survey

Map an area

Patrol forest boundary
What can I do with a conservation drone?
Orangutan nests
Monitoring health of habitats
Agricultural expansion
Recent deforestation
Mosaic of multiple drone images
Near Infra Red images

NDVI information
Where are conservation drones?
Ongoing developments...

Radio collars
Camera traps
Spy mics
VHF
Radio collars
Wingspan: 1.8 m
Weight: ~2.0 kg (inc. batteries)
Payload: ~1.0 kg

Automatic Take-off: Hand launched
Autonomous Flight: Guided by GPS
Automatic Landing: Within 100 x 100 m field

Telemetry: ‘Live’ transmission of flight data and video
Sensors: Photo, video, thermal imaging cameras
Photo Quality: ~1 – 10 cm per pixel resolution

Battery Life: ~40-60 minutes
Range: ~30-50 km