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**Streams in Forested Headwaters as Reservoirs of Endemicity in Bornean Amphibians: an
Example from Gunung Mulu National Park, Sarawak**

Pui Yong Min and Indraneil Das

Institute of Biodiversity and Environmental Conservation, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak,
94300 Kota Samarahan, Sarawak, Malaysia.

Tropical forests are known centres of amphibian richness and endemicity, much of which are associated with wetlands therein, particularly, streams and other lotic environments. Are specific streams or sections of streams more important than others as reservoirs of species richness or endemicity? We studied stream-dwelling amphibian assemblages within Gunung Mulu National Park, Sarawak, East Malaysia (Borneo). Six streams were selected, ranging from the headwaters of Sungei Tapin (1,800 m asl) to low elevation streams within the Sungei Melinau system, both tributaries of Sungei Tutoh. A 100 m transect was established at each stream, and standardized visual encounter surveys were conducted along each transect at night, between February and September 2008. Cumulative sampling effort of 39 nights yielded a total of 265 individuals, representing 40 species of amphibians. Our results indicate higher (Bornean) endemicity of amphibians at higher elevation streams (headwaters of Sungei Tapin highest- 90%), compared to those at lower elevations, including a stream at Camp 2 (500 m asl, 75%, and other low elevation streams (> 200 m, 35–60%). Species diversity and species richness values were also significantly higher at larger streams. Species composition at lower elevation streams are more similar to each other, but can be separated into discrete large stream- and small stream- assemblages. These results indicate that species composition of stream-dwelling amphibians is affected by both stream altitude and stream width. These results underline the importance of riparian habitats, especially forested headwaters, in harbouring Bornean endemics, a number of which are on the global list of threatened species, and support prioritization of stream types and stream segments, especially within forested headwaters, as a regional conservation strategy.