



ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION  
INTERNATIONAL  
AUSTRALIA

February, 2024

Ryan, the energetic orangutan, continues to exhibit high levels of activity within the Orangutan Care Centre and Quarantine (OCCQ). Ryan has grown in confidence and stature over the last few years. His hair has darkened a deep reddish-brown, which contrasts with his light distinguishing beard. Ryan's assertiveness is palpable, and even experienced staff members find it challenging to interact with him. This emphasises the complexity of managing an orangutan with assertive behaviour. Only certain caregivers have the capacity to handle Ryan effectively on release. The ever-reliable long time caregiver Pak Ateng is one of very few who has this ability. Ryan will follow Pak Ateng, even allowing himself to be carried occasionally by Pak Ateng to and from the forest. The bond of trust has been developed over many years between these two fellow primates.

Showcasing his inquisitive nature, Ryan's excursions often lead him deep into the forest to the very edges of the OCCQ border. The forest seemingly wraps its roots and leaves around Ryan and pulls him in, refusing to let go, not that that Ryan wants to leave its warm embrace. Pak Ateng believes that Ryan is ready for a return to the wild, citing his intelligence in sourcing food from the forest, including fruits and ant nests. Notably, Ryan has demonstrated an aptitude for nest-building, a crucial survival skill. He can happily spend much of his time in forest school collecting branches and breaking them down to form the foundations of a nest. Despite Ryan's occasional reluctance to return to his enclosure, and to often venture deep into the distant forest, Pak Ateng attributes Ryan's emotional state to the orangutan's natural desire to find a mate.

As the caretakers assess Ryan's readiness for potential release into the wild, they continue to closely monitor his behaviour as well as providing necessary support to address his unique challenges. This will help ensure Ryan's well-being and successful reintegration into the wild. We look forward to updating you on Ryan's progress!

Orangutan Foundation International Australia Foster Program

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Ryan

