



PRIME MINISTER  
CANBERRA

Reference: C10/6449

13 April 2010

Katherine Flint  
34 Waller Crescent  
CAMPBELL ACT 2612

Dear Katherine

Thank you for your recent letter about orang-utans. I always appreciate young people writing to me about important matters.

You will be pleased to hear that the Australian Government has a strong record of support for orang-utan conservation including having contributed over \$300,000 to the Australian Orangutan Project (AOP) for the establishment of Wildlife Protection Units in Sumatra. You might be interested in looking at the AOP website to learn about the important work that they are doing ([www.orangutan.org.au/](http://www.orangutan.org.au/)).

Through the Australian Agency for International Development, the Australian Government is also providing \$500,000 over four years to a non-government organisation, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), to achieve the dual and related goals of sustainable development for local villages and conservation of orang-utan habitat. The program is working in the Berau and East Kutai districts of the Indonesian province of East Kalimantan, an area that is home to one of the three largest known populations of orang-utans in the world, with up to 4,000 individuals. TNC is collaborating with governments and the logging, plantation and mining industries to improve the livelihoods of the villages while identifying and minimising the loss of critical orang-utan habitat.

Your letter asked what you can do to help the orang-utan. Orang-utans, like other animals and plants, depend on a healthy environment in order to survive. Protecting our environment is a very important task, and the choices that we all make can help to preserve habitats. You might be interested to visit at the Government's Living Greener website ([www.livinggreener.gov.au](http://www.livinggreener.gov.au)) which contains ideas about things that you and your family can do to help protect our environment.

Please accept my best wishes and every encouragement with your future studies.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Rudd', written in a cursive style.

Kevin Rudd