



Samling and the Upper Baram: the facts behind the Mongabay report

Response to Mongabay, “Logging still threatens Bornean forest once envisioned as an Indigenous-led peace park” (September 2026)

Since 2023

No active Samling logging in the Upper Baram. Last royalty marking under T/0404: July 2023.

~70 km

From Dapoi camp to the concession area in the report (68 km measured).

No role

Samling holds no stake in, and does not operate, the Borneoland concession.

Summary

Mongabay’s article reports on the Bruno Manser Fonds report *Plundering the Baram Peace Park*, launched on 27 August 2026. Its subject is a 170,000-hectare concession granted to Borneoland Timber Resources Sdn. Bhd. in 2024.

Samling appears in two places: a photograph dated 23 August 2023 of an employee at Dapoi camp, and a map describing the concession boundaries as based on former Samling concessions. In a story about current logging, both suggest Samling is logging there today. It is not.

What the article implies vs the facts

Implied by the article	Fact
Samling is logging in the Upper Baram now.	Samling has had no active logging in the Upper Baram since 2023.
Samling is linked to the Borneoland concession.	Samling holds no stake in, contract with, or operations on the Borneoland concession, which began operating in 2024.
The concessions on the map are Samling’s.	The map itself labels them <i>former</i> Samling concessions; they were later re-delineated and granted to others.
The Dapoi camp photo shows logging in the report’s concession area.	Dapoi camp is in the Sekiwa FMU under T/0404, about 70 km (68 km measured) from the T/0412 boundary.
The photo shows current Samling logging.	The photo is dated 23 August 2023, almost three years before publication and before Borneoland operated.
Samling was actively harvesting when the photo was taken.	Samling’s last royalty marking under T/0404 was in July 2023. Harvesting then stopped and Samling withdrew. The photo falls in that wind-down period.

Timeline

- Jul 2023** Samling's last royalty marking of logs under T/0404; harvesting stops.
- 23 Aug 2023** Mongabay photographs Dapoi camp, Sekiwa FMU, during the wind-down.
- 2024** Borneoland Timber Resources begins operations on its concession.
- 27 Aug 2026** Bruno Manser Fonds and partners launch *Plundering the Baram Peace Park*.
- Sep 2026** Mongabay publishes its article using the 2023 photograph.

Forest Department Sarawak has separately rejected the BMF report as selective and misleading, and states the concession was granted legally.

Location

Dapoi camp sits in the Sekiwa FMU under licence T/0404, about 70 km from the western boundary of T/0412, the concession area shown in the article's map.



Straight-line distance, measured from Dapoi camp to the nearest T/0412 boundary.

Conclusion

Samling has had no active logging in the Upper Baram since 2023. Its last royalty marking under T/0404 was in July 2023, after which harvesting stopped and the company withdrew.

Samling has no role in the Borneoland concession or its logging. The concessions shown on the article's map are former Samling concessions. The photograph was taken at Dapoi camp in August 2023, about 70 km from that concession area and a year before Borneoland began operating.

The photograph and map therefore do not show current Samling logging. Samling will ask Mongabay to clarify the photograph's context so that readers are not misled.

MEDIA CONTACT

Media enquiries
enquiry@samling.com

SOURCES

[Mongabay, September 2026](#)
[Forest Department Sarawak response to the BMF report](#)
[The Borneo Project, report announcement](#)