

## **BERAU MARINE VERTEBRATES MONITORING IN DERAWAN ISLANDS MARINE PARK**

The Berau marine vertebrates program (since 2007) aims to protect a high diversity of marine vertebrates including cetaceans, turtles, whale sharks and manta rays in the Marine Protected Area of Berau, East Kalimantan, Indonesia. Besides raising awareness, engaging local communities in sustainable handicraft and ecotourism activities, part of the conservation program includes a long-term monitoring program of marine vertebrates in the area. Surveys are being conducted by the local NGO Yayasan Konservasi RASI (Conservation Foundation for Rare Aquatic Species of Indonesia) under guidance of Dr. Danielle Krebs and Ir. Budiono. The research team involves experienced RASI staff, local students as well as local and overseas volunteers. We are looking for motivated volunteers that are willing to engage in the program through eight boat days monitoring in the beautiful and protected landscape of the Berau archipelago. For 2017 we will focus our monitoring effort on three areas (Derawan, Maratua, Biduk-Biduk) that are assigned as ecotourism area to assess long-term distribution patterns and recommendations to local governments based on distribution/ activity patterns. We also conduct coral reef monitoring at several locations during the survey days by snorkeling.

**Dates: 19 September-2 October 2017** (spaces available for 4-5 overseas volunteers per survey).

**Day by day schedule** (sequence of days can change based on sea conditions).

Reef snorkeling will be done on almost all two-hour mid-afternoon breaks:

Day 1. Fly from Balikpapan-Berau, by road & boat to Maratua Island-- Evening: brief introduction of the program goals, past, present and future research and conservation activities,

Day 2. Morning: Theoretical introduction in survey techniques and cetacean species identification. Theory of reefcheck indicators for the Indo-Pacific belt.

Afternoon: Visiting caves on Maratua for those interested

Day 3. Boat survey around Kakaban Island with mid-day break at Kakaban Lake to swim among stingless jelly fish.

Day 4. Boat survey along Maratua Island

Day 5. Boat survey around Kakaban- Sangalaki Islands (during break snorkel at manta point)

Day 6. Boat survey along Maratua Island

Day 7. Boat survey to Derawan-Long Island

Day 8. Whale shark identification near Derawan (morning), boat survey Derawan-Long Island (afternoon)

Day 9. In morning reefcheck monitoring in Derawan. Afternoon free program.

Day 10. Back to Berau by speedboat and car and continue trip overland to Biduk-biduk.

Day 11. Explore Teluk Sumbang angel waterfall (air terjun bidadari) and indigenous tribe village (Dayak basap)

Day 12. Boat survey Kaniungan Island - Mangkalihat Peninsula

Day 13. Boat survey Kaniungan Island - Mangkalihat Peninsula (late afternoon dip in mirror lake)

Day 14. Back to Berau by car . late afternoon flight to Balikpapan

### **The volunteers we are looking for:**

- Experienced on boats at sea, capable using binoculars, highly motivated and physically healthy/ strong, capable of swimming/ snorkeling, in possession of a (travel) health/ accident insurance

### **Registration:**

Expression of interest before 1 May 2017. Selected candidates will be notified by 15 May 2017, registration and min. 50 or 100% transfer by 15 July 2017 (if not paid in full, the rest may be paid in cash upon arrival): Costs per person including basic accommodation/ food/snorkeling/ transport (boats & return domestic flight Balikpapan-Berau), excursions (Maratua caves, jellfish lake, mirror lake, angel waterfall, dayak village) but excluding hotel/food in Balikpapan/airport:

IDR 20,000,000 (c. 1500 USD) for non-students and IDR 18,000,000 for students (c. 1300 USD) (all levels) that have finished their degree no longer than one year. Please send your motivation and brief CV to:

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