



Like to travel off the beaten path?
Want to make a contribution to science and conservation?

Volunteer as a citizen scientist

*with the Alliance for Tompotika Conservation (AlTo)'s
expedition to Indonesia...*

Tompotika Tarsier Survey: Science in the Jungle

25 January - 10 February, 2016



Photo: Robin Moore

Tarsiers (*Tarsius* spp.) are among the world's smallest primates: tiny group-dwelling creatures that roam tropical forests at night looking for insects and invertebrates. With at least 8 species endemic to different parts of Indonesia's island of Sulawesi, tarsiers can be distinguished primarily by their calls. In Sulawesi's Tompotika region, where the Alliance for Tompotika Conservation (AlTo) works with local

people to conserve their natural heritage, tarsiers are present, but have never been studied--even what species they belong to is unknown. Join a small group of citizen scientists conducting the first-ever survey of tarsiers in Tompotika: make a permanent contribution to our knowledge of the natural world while experiencing the wonders of the Sulawesi rainforest!

When we're not tracking tarsiers in the jungle, we'll also spend time observing unique and endangered birds, bats, and other wildlife, snorkeling the world's richest coral reefs, and spending time with local villagers.



Photo: Kevin Schafer



(over, please)

The Details

Itinerary (17 days including travel):

- 25 Jan 2016: Most participants depart origin.
- 26 Jan: Arrive Jakarta. Continue to Manado, North Sulawesi. Accommodation: guest house
- 27-28 Jan: Close observation of a habituated tarsier population in Tangkoko preserve, North Sulawesi. Also snorkeling, birding, and looking for other species such as crested macaques and bear cuscus.
- 29 Jan: Fly to Luwuk, drive to first Tompotika survey site
- 30 Jan - 08 Feb: Tarsier field survey in multiple Tompotika locations. We will be spotting tarsiers in the forest and recording their high-pitched calls to identify them by species. We'll also spend time trekking Tompotika's native rainforest, observing at the world's premiere communal nesting ground for the endangered maleo bird, watching the nightly migration of thousands of endemic fruit bats, and visiting with local villagers. Accommodation: huts, camping.
- 09 Feb: Flight, Luwuk to Jakarta. Accommodation: guest house.
- 10 Feb: Flight home. (Due to international date line, those traveling to the US arrive home on the same date.)



Cost: \$3200 per person, not including international airfare (usually \$900-\$1400). Limit 10 people. Price includes all in-country travel, meals, and accommodation (double occupancy). A \$500 deposit is required to hold your space. \$100 discount if registered by October 1, 2015.

Leadership: The trip will be led by ALTo Director Marcy Summers, assisted by ALTo's permanent Tompotikan staff. Marcy has lived and worked as a conservation biologist in Indonesia for 13 years, works closely with the local people of Tompotika, and has led seven previous eco-service tours to the area. The scientific survey will be led by tarsier expert Dr. Myron Shekelle.

Is this trip right for me? Although you'll be helping to make a permanent contribution to our scientific knowledge, you do not need any special scientific skills to join this trip. You do need a spirit of adventure, a fondness for spending time in the forest, and some flexibility to adjust your schedule (such as meal and bed times) to the dictates of the wildlife.



Myron Shekelle, PhD has more than twenty years' experience studying and promoting biodiversity conservation in Indonesia, and is recognized as one of the world's leading experts on tarsiers. He is a member of the IUCN Species Survival Commission, Primate Specialist Group, and has authored 16 Red List threat assessments and numerous scientific publications on tarsiers and other subjects. He has been scientific consultant for a variety of television and film projects, and has appeared on camera on National Geographic Channel, Discovery, and others. Myron is based in Bellingham, Washington, and directs tarsier.org, which promotes conservation and research on tarsiers as a flagship for biodiversity.



ALTo's Eco-Service Tours: People-to-People Conservation

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