



ARRIVE AS A GUEST, FEEL LIKE A KING, LEAVE AS A FRIEND

UPDATE MAY 2012



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Fish Geek Week

Mark Erdmann was on Pulau Pef for one week and he did some presentations about Conservation International and about the marine life in Raja Ampat.



Scientific Characterization

The studies include biological, oceanographic and socioeconomic research. As a result of Indonesian Marine Biodiversity Prioritization workshop, the Bird's Head got the highest geographic priority for marine biodiversity conservation in the coral triangle.

Enabling Environment

Creating an Enabling Environment for conservation includes:

- Community engagement
- Livelihoods development
- Local partnerships
- Outreach campaigns
- Conservation Education

Conservation International (CI)

CI and their partners WWF & The Nature Conservancy are pursuing to reach three goals in the Bird's Head seascape and the region of Raja Ampat:

- Scientific Characterization of the seascape
- Creating an Enabling Environment
- Implementing marine protected areas

[Read more about CI](#)

How many fishes worldwide?

- Between 25'000-30'000 species
- 60% marine and 40% freshwater
- 40% inhabit warm shallow water (reef)
- 4'100 reef associated species in Indian-Pazifik region
- 2'200 reef fishes in Indonesia
- 1656 species for Bird's Head (1459 in Raja Ampat)



On-site education in villages on the school ship Kalabia

Marine Protected Areas

Today there are over 3.5mio ha of protected marine areas in the Bird's Head seascape (~1.2mio ha in Raja Ampat) where no commercial fishing is allowed. Thanks to controlling shark fining, cyanide and bomb fishing almost has been eliminated in the protected areas.



Marine life in Raja Ampat

We learned a lot from Mark Erdmann about the marine life in general and specific for the Bird's Head seascape.

House reef of Pulau Pef

To support the house reef in its biodiversity, Mark advised us in planting corals, building shelters and maintain the breeding of giant clams.

Transplanting corals

The corals originate from different reefs. Very important was that the corals didn't get transplanted to higher levels than before. Otherwise they get sunburned.

Top countries for coral reef fish

1.	Indonesia	2209
2.	Australia	1827
3.	Philippines	1790
4.	Papua N. Guinea	1635
5.	Malaysia	1549
6.	Japan	1462

Of the 2209 species in Indonesia you will find over 1650 in the Bird's Head region.

Two octopus already occupied one of the shelters



Figures for the Bird's Head seascape

- 1,656 species of reef fish
- 1,459 species of reef fish in Raja Ampat
- 35 species of endemic reef fish
- 600 species of hard coral
- 75% of all known coral species
- 10 times the number of hard coral species found in the entire Caribbean
- 57 species of Mantis shrimp
- 13 species of marine mammals
- 5 species of endangered sea turtles

RAJA 4 DIVERS

Giant clams can live over 100 years and can be over 300 kilogram of weight. They are hermaphrodites (producing sperms and eggs) but can't self-fertilize. To reproduce they need another clam nearby. Bringing clams to a reef maintains the survival of the giant clams.

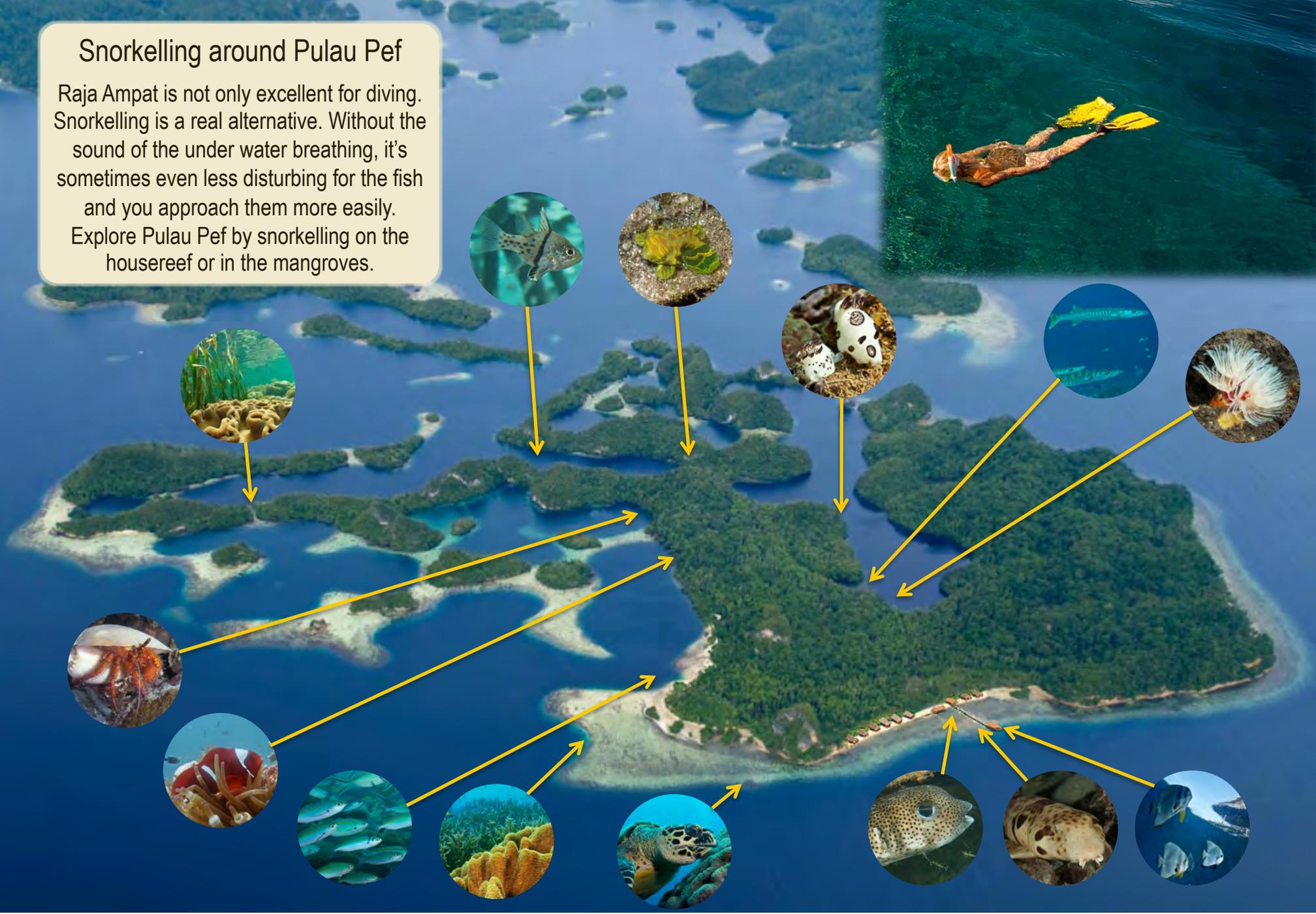


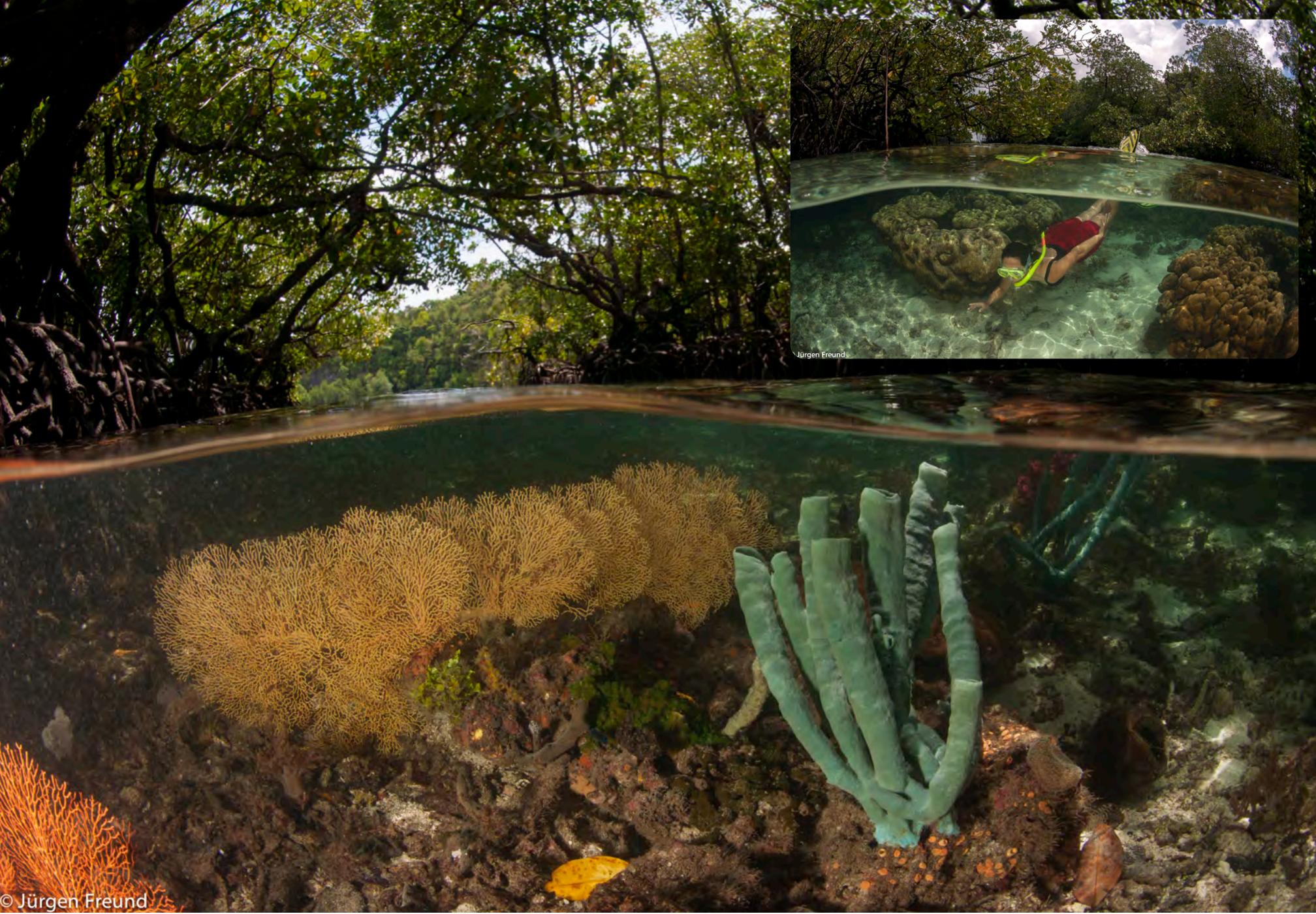
A big thank you to Mark for taking us to the wonders of the sea.

Mark Erdmann will be back in 2013.

Snorkelling around Pulau Pef

Raja Ampat is not only excellent for diving. Snorkelling is a real alternative. Without the sound of the under water breathing, it's sometimes even less disturbing for the fish and you approach them more easily. Explore Pulau Pef by snorkelling on the housereef or in the mangroves.





Jürgen Freund

Whale watching on the way to Pef

From Sorong to Pulau Pef you sometimes see sperm whales passing. Some guests are lucky and see two or even more of these giants!



Did you know?

We now have a Sunset Lounge on the beach of Pulau Pef. It's a wonderful place to meet and to share your adventures of the day!



SAMPAI JUMPA!



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