

The Mammal Fauna of Kofiau Island, off Western New Guinea

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ABSTRACT. Kofiau's terrestrial mammal fauna shares many taxa with oceanic islands lying close to New Guinea. Its fauna is distinctive in possessing a mixture of Moluccan near-endemics, such as *Pteropus chrysoproctus*, along with Melanesian species, like *Dobsonia beauforti*, that reach their westernmost limit on Kofiau. Very little has been published on the terrestrial vertebrate fauna on Kofiau compared to the adjacent islands. This paper presents two surveys of the terrestrial mammal fauna of Kofiau Island, undertaken in 2011 and 2019, increasing the number of species recorded from the island from 1 to 20: one rodent, two marsupials and 17 bats.

ABSTRAK [Bahasa Indonesia]. Fauna mamalia terestrial di Pulau Kofiau memiliki kemiripan dengan pulau-pulau di sekitar kawasan Papua dan Papua New Guinea. Mamalia terestrial di pulau ini sangat khas yang merupakan campuran dari spesies dengan sebaran terbatas di Kepulauan Maluku, seperti *Pteropus chrysoproctus*, sampai dengan spesies dari Kawasan Melanesia seperti *Dobsonia beauforti* yang mencapai batas paling barat Pulau Kofiau. Sampai saat ini, publikasi tentang fauna vertebrata terestrial di Pulau Kofiau masih sangat sedikit dibandingkan dengan pulau-pulau lain di sekitarnya. Makalah ini menyajikan hasil survei mamalia terestrial di Kofiau yang telah dilakukan pada tahun 2011 dan 2019, dan menunjukkan adanya peningkatan jumlah spesies yang tercatat di pulau ini, dari satu menjadi 20 spesies yang terdiri dari satu spesies hewan pengerat, dua spesies hewan berkantung dan 17 spesies kelelawar.

Introduction

Kofiau Island is a relatively large (144 sq. km) landmass in Southwest Papua Province, Indonesia, which lies around 30 km west of the New Guinean continental shelf (Fig. 1). Being surrounded by water over 200 m deep, it was not connected

with New Guinea during the last glacial maxima (Diamond *et al.*, 2009). Its maximum elevation is 288 m, though most of the island consists of a coralline platform that is raised a few metres above sea level. The uplifted marine limestone plateau is undated, as are the two volcanic hills that project above it (Diamond *et al.*, 2009).

Keywords: Raja Ampat, biogeography, bat echolocation, biodiversity survey

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