

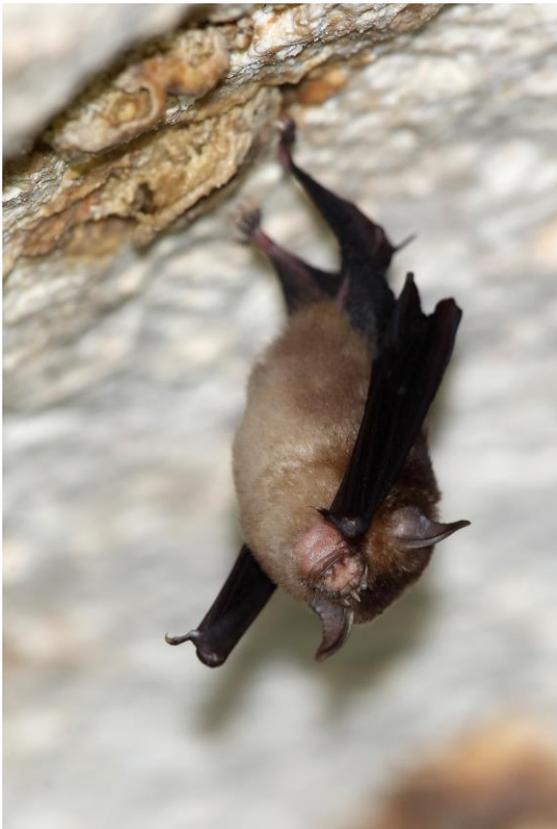
WEST PAPUA 2022

This was my first Birdtour Asia tour of the year to West Papua, one of my favorite destinations. Although it was a birding trip, we managed to harvest a number of mammals, thanks to some very keen participants that were very happy to look at the mammals. We ended seeing 27 species of mammals

LOCATIONS VISITED

BIAK

Not many mammals here but a bat cave delivered Great Bent-winged Bat, Dark Sheat-tailed Bat, Temminck's Trident Bat and Golden-tipped Bat. Outside, during the owling, we saw a number of Biak Bare-backed Fruit Bats and also the Nyctimene from the island, which isn't currently assigned to any known species (No either by IUCN or HBM)



Temminck's Trident Bat and Great Bent-winged Bat, Biak

SNOW MOUNTAINS

Due some local issues we weren't able to visit our main birding locations along the road to the lake Habemma and beyond so we had to improvise. We saw almost no mammals except some rats crossing the road at Baliem Valley that I couldn't identify.

NIMBOKRANG

Steamy lowland forest in the northern part of New Guinea but tripping on mammals. Both Northern Common and Spotted Cuscus were present next to our accommodation, at Isyo Hill's Resort. Short nocturnal forays were good enough to harvest Great and Long-eared Flying Foxes, Greater and Lesser Bare-backed Fruit Bats, Unstriped Tube-nosed Fruit Bat, Common Blossom Bat, Diadem Leaf-nosed Bat, Large-mosaic-tailed Rat and Common Echymipera.



Unstriped Tube-nosed Fruit Bat



Large Mosaic-tailed Rat



Lesser Bare-backed Fruit Bat and Long-eared Flying Fox

ARFAKS

We didn't see many mammals here although we connected with some good ones. At our accommodation, a family of Large New Guinea Spiny Rats showed up from time to time, meanwhile in some grassy patches nearby we found the extremely rare Vogelkop Mountain Rat. Vogelkop Ringtail Possum was found near Minggrei as well, along with Chestnut Forest Mouse.





Vogelkop Ringtail Possum, Vogelkop Mountain Rat and Chestnut Tree Mouse

WAIGEO

As in the Arfaks, we didn't connect with many mammals here. Waigeo Spotted Cuscus popped up at our accommodation, one Striped Possum was hanging around near Sapokreng, the small cave next to the Sapokreng boardwalk hosted both Raffray's Sheat-tailed Bats and Biak Leaf-nosed Bats and both Spectacled Flying Fox and Greater Bare-backed Fruit Bats were common at night



Greater Bare-backed Fruit Bat and Raffray's Sheat-tailed Bat

TRIP LIST

- 1- Common Echymipera (*Echymipera kalubu*)
- 2- Northern Common Cuscus (*Phalanger orientalis*)
- 3- Common Spotted Cuscus (*Spilocuscus maculatus*)
- 4- Waigeo Spotted Cuscus (*Spilocuscus papuensis*)
- 5- Striped Possum (*Dactylopsila trivirgata*)
- 6- Vogelkop Ringtail Possum (*Pseudochirulus schelegeli*)
- 7- Large Mosaic-tailed Rat (*Mammelomys rattoides*)
- 8- Chestnut Tree Mouse (*Pogonomys macrourus*)
- 9- Vogelkop Mountain Rat (*Rattus arfakiensis*)
- 10- Large New Guinea Spiny Rat (*Rattus praetor*)
- 11- Biak Naked-backed Fruit Bat (*Dobsonia emersa*)
- 12- Greater Naked-backed Fruit Bat (*Dobsonia magna*)
- 13- Lesser Naked-backed Fruit Bat (*Dobsonia minor*)
- 14- Unstriped Tube-nose Fruit Bat (*Paranyctimene raptor*)
- 15- Spectacled Flying Fox (*Pteropus conspicillatus*)
- 16- Great Flying Fox (*Pteropus neohibernicus*)
- 17- Large-eared Flying Fox (*Pteropus macrotis*)
- 18- Common Blossom Bat (*Syconycteris australis*)
- 19- Temminck's Trident Bat (*Aselliscus tricuspis*)
- 20- Biak Roundleaf Bat (*Hipposideros biaki*)
- 21- Diadem Roundleaf Bat (*Hipposideros diadema*)

- 22- Raffray's Sheat-tailed Bat (*Emballonura raffrayana*)
- 23- Dark Sheat-tailed Bat (*Mosia nigrescens*)
- 24- Great Bent-winged Bat (*Miniopterus tristis*)
- 25- Golden-tipped Bat (*Phoniscus papuensis*)
- 26- Short-finned Pilot Whale (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*)
- 27- Indopacific Bottle-nosed Dolphin (*Tursiops aduncus*)

SOME ADDITIONAL PHOTOS





Syconycteris australis, *Mosia nigrescens* and *Hipposideros papua*

