

A fluffy brown owl chick is perched on a tree trunk, looking towards the camera. The background is a dense forest with tall trees and green foliage. In the top right corner, there is a yellow circular sticker with a white border and a curled bottom edge, containing the text "Pocket Guide".

**Pocket
Guide**

Tangkoko Duasudara

NATURE RESERVE

A Pocket Guide to
Tangkoko-Duasudara
Nature Reserve

by: Rob Lee, Jon Riley, and Lefrandy Pesik

For the animals in the forest

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PREFACE

Tangkoko Duasudara Nature Reserve has persisted as the most important place for terrestrial nature conservation in Minahasa, North Sulawesi, for several decades. There are few places in the world where such a wide variety of habitats, plants, and animals are crammed into one small forest (8,890 hectares or 21,990 acres). Thus far, scientists have documented 26 mammal, 178 bird, 15 reptile, and over 200 plant species that occur at Tangkoko-Duasudara. Several highly recognizable creatures, such as crested black macaques, spectral tarsiers, bear cuscus, hornbills, and eight species of kingfisher, live within the reserve and attract tourists from all over the world. Today, Tangkoko-Duasudara stands alone as the last sizable tract of intact forest in the Minahasa district. This is because of people like you, who have supported a community-based ecotourism industry in and around the reserve. Tourism at Tangkoko-Duasudara, small as it is, is the most obvious difference between Tangkoko-Duasudara and most other forests that are now in pieces or gone. So come and enjoy Tangkoko-Duasudara, and realize that by supporting the truly local eco-tour operators, you are part of the solution that has maintained the forests in Tangkoko-Duasudara and preserved its rich biological heritage. But also be mindful that ecotourism is not merely tourism within nature, but is a sustainable activity that benefits nature. With this in mind, try to support those guides and those businesses who are the best eco-tour operators, and you will help to assure that Tangkoko-Duasudara will be here for the next generation to enjoy.

Myron Shekelle, Ph.D.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

PREFACE.....	i
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	ii
FOREWORD.....	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....	v
INTRODUCTION.....	1
Sulawesi Biodiversity Facts.....	1
North Sulawesi Biodiversity Facts.....	2
BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF THE RESERVE.....	4
CLIMATE.....	6
HABITATS AND VEGETATION.....	7
TREES.....	12
MAMMALS.....	16
BIRDS.....	26
REPTILES.....	36
TIPS.....	40
BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION.....	43
IN BATUPUTIH VILLAGE.....	45
RULES AND CAUTIONS.....	48
SUGGESTED FURTHER READINGS.....	50
Tangkoko Mammal Check List.....	52
Tangkoko Bird Check List.....	53
NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.....	56