



Dear Free Flow Divers,

Holiday Greetings from Raja Ampat! Some of you already know me, Andy the dive guide from the liveaboard Shakti in Raja Ampat. If you didn't manage to make it out for one of our cruises, I'm sure you've seen some of the great photos and video footage from one of the Free Flow Divers trips.

I thought that some of you might be interested in a hearing about Misool Eco Resort, my new project in Raja Ampat. As everyone who has been to Raja Ampat already knows, this area features an astoundingly diverse array of pristine reef systems and primeval jungles. Recent studies by a number of conservation organizations have demonstrated that this area has the richest marine biodiversity in the world, with sky-high numbers of fish and coral species. In fact, Raja Ampat beat out all the other "hotspots," such as Manado, Komodo, Papua New Guinea and the Philippines. To us divers, this means unparalleled diving!

The conservation of this unique area is absolutely critical. The reefs are under constant threat of dynamite and cyanide fishing, shark finning, over fishing, and even irresponsible tourism. In an effort to protect this area, I am establishing a conservation and research centre on a small island in Misool, Raja Ampat. In conjunction the Conservation Centre, I will be operating an eco dive resort, featuring a small number of tastefully constructed and environmentally sound bungalows.

The conservation centre will provide a base for research on the reefs, turtle and shark preservation, and alternative fishing projects in conjunction with the local community. In addition, it will draw more attention to the importance of preserving Raja Ampat. The diving resort, which will be of small scale and high quality, will help support the conservation centre. And needless to say, Misool Eco Resort will be a first-class dive destination for small groups of discriminating divers.

I have already leased a stunning beach-ringed island, Batbitim, on which to build the resort and the Conservation Centre. In addition, I have contracted two areas strictly for conservation. The first is a small island that is a busy turtle nesting area. The second conservation area covers an area of over 200 sq km of sea and reef adjoining Batbitim. This area is now a Marine Protected Area (MPA). In agreement with the local community, this area has been designated as a 'No Fishing Zone.' However, we have reserved the right to dive this special area.

In leasing these three areas and maintaining the MPA, we will help prevent any further detrimental fishing practices, fostering even more massive populations of fish, sharks, and turtles. The most breathtaking dives in Misool are found within the boundaries of the MPA, including the Manta Cleaning Station where we spotted the whale shark on your last trip, Kanim Island, where we dove with schooling Mobula rays, Boo Island, Fiabacet, and myriad other sites. Now imagine these fantastic sites with even denser fish populations!

In order to realize the next phase of this important project, we will require additional funding. As you know, Raja Ampat is a place like no other on earth, and its conservation is of paramount importance. Becoming an investor in this project is an opportunity to do your part in the area's conservation, while reaping the benefits of being a stakeholder in a world-class diving resort. We are accepting investments both big and small.

The most basic investment plan is to become a "Friend of Raja Ampat." In return for a 1000 USD investment in the Centre, you will receive a voucher of an equal amount, redeemable upon your first visit to Misool Eco Resort. In addition, you will receive a 20% discount on your stay. Friends of Raja Ampat will also be entitled to a 20% discount on all future visits to Misool Eco Resort. Your investment will help set up the Conservation/Research Centre and the Eco Resort, as well as to protect this unique marine ecosystem and the unrivalled diving that it has to offer. Other options include a time-share package that entitles you to stay for free for two weeks every year.

If you would like more details about the project and investment opportunities, please contact me. In the meantime if you would like to see more photos then please take a look at our website at www.indoeco.com

Kind regards, Andy.

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