
Karstifiable rocks
(potential karst aquifer)
Continuous carbonate rocks
Discontinuous carbonate rocks
WOKAM database;
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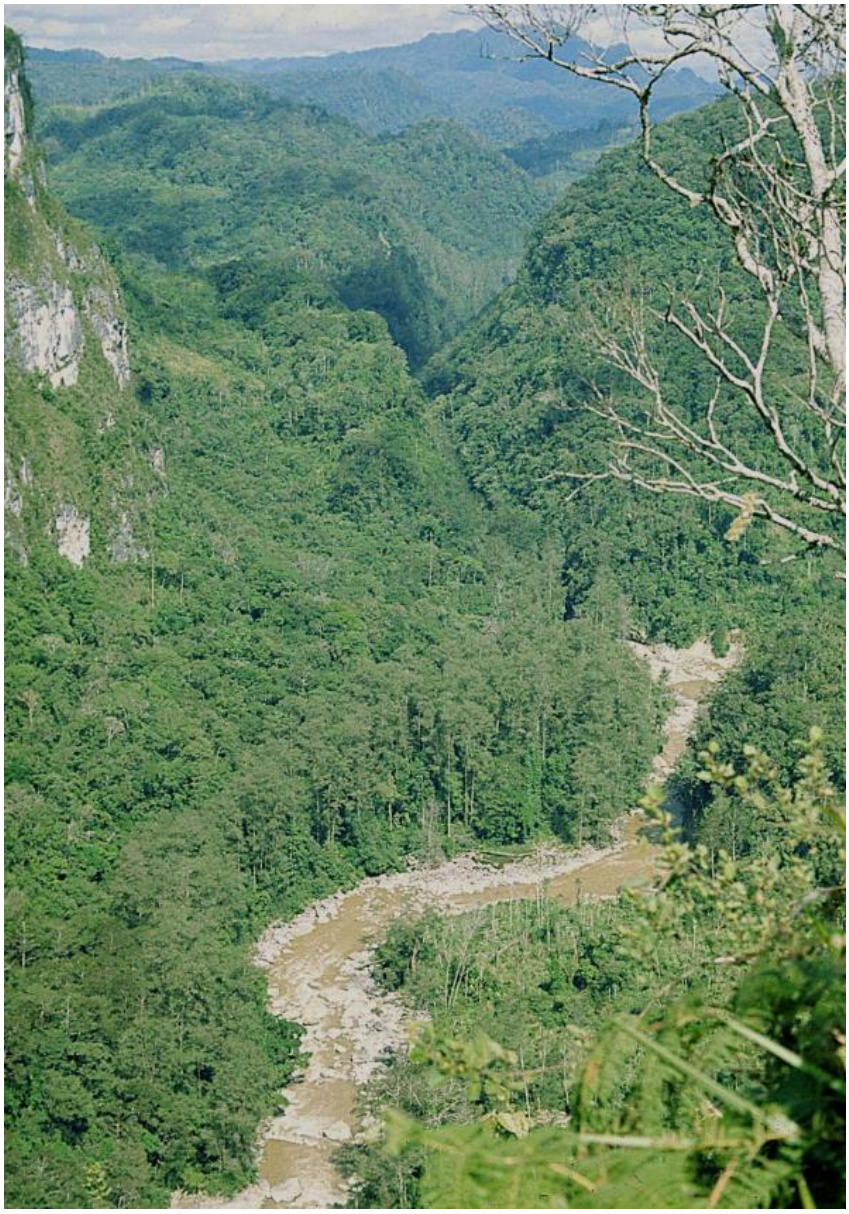
PACIFIC OCEAN
INDONESIA
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
BISMARCK SEA
Namure
Ora
Mayong
Mageni
Blue Hole
Berenice's Hair
Iowa
Matali
Khakiil
Tobio
Wassi
SOLOMON SEA
SOLOMON ISLANDS
CORAL SEA
AUSTRALIA
N
W
E
S
0
380
760
Km

Country	MIKAS springs	Coordinates / Nearby City	Spring discharge (Q in l/s,min/av/max) / tapped or not	Criteria* in order / Main justification */ H-historic, A-aesthetic, S-scientific, E-Economic, Ec-ecologic	Data collected by
Papua New Guinea 	1. **Tobio**	S 6°30'39.09" E144° 7'4.72" Z=1500 m asl Pulupare (Kagua-Erave District), Southern Highlands	85000-113000 Only one estimate, Not tapped	***S, A*** *Spring is at downstream entrance of Iaro River Cave developed in Eocene limestones. Cave is c. 1500m long. Entrance estimated as 55m high and >24m wide. This resurgence is commonly quoted as the largest in the world (e.g. Ford & Williams, 1989, 1997) although this is based on a single estimate of the flow as discussed in Gunn et al., 2025. Catchment is sparsely populated and very rarely visited other than by indigenous peoples.*	John Gunn with support of Howard Beck, Neil Ryan
	2. **Berenice's Hair**	S 05° 28'11.9" E 151° 24'24.0" Z= 267 m asl Galowe village	2000 / - / - Not tapped	***A, Ec*** *Berenice' Hair spring is one of the entrances of the Cassowary (Muruk) cave system developed in Yalam limestone. Cassowary cave system is first to reach the depth of 1,000 m in the Southern Hemisphere. The river originated at the source is a tributary of Galowe River.*	Jean-Paul Sounier and cave expedition team
	3. **Mageni**	S 5°13'56.4" E 151°41'20.4" Z= 562 m asl Ora Iso/ Esis rivers	2,000 – 4,000/- Max unknown Not tapped	***A, Ec*** *Mageni is a beautiful gravity waterfall spring issuing from Yalam limestones. It is located at the high cliff difficult to access.*	Jean-Paul Sounier and cave expedition team
	4. **Matali resurgence**	S 05° 27'25.5" E 151° 29'49.6" Z= 562 m asl Olaipun village/Matali River	Min: 10,000 to 15,000 l/s (Ford & Williams Table5.9 gives Min 20 m^3/s, avg 90m^3/s, max >240 m^3/s. Maire (1981) suggests a max of 500 m^3/s! Not tapped	***A, Ec*** *Matali is linked to the Kavakuna megadoline and Ka2 cave system, developed in Yalam limestones. This is gravity waterfall spring. Catchment estimated at 350 km^2.*	Jean-Paul Sounier and cave expedition team
	5. **Mayang**	S 5° 26'31" E 151° 23'66" Z= 400 m asl Galowe village	20 000 / - / Max unknown Not tapped	***A, Ec*** *Mayang is the source of Galowe River.* Resurgence impenetrable. Water squeeze through boulder. According to Jean-Paul Sounier it was accessed by foot just once in 1985.	Jean-Paul Sounier and cave expedition team

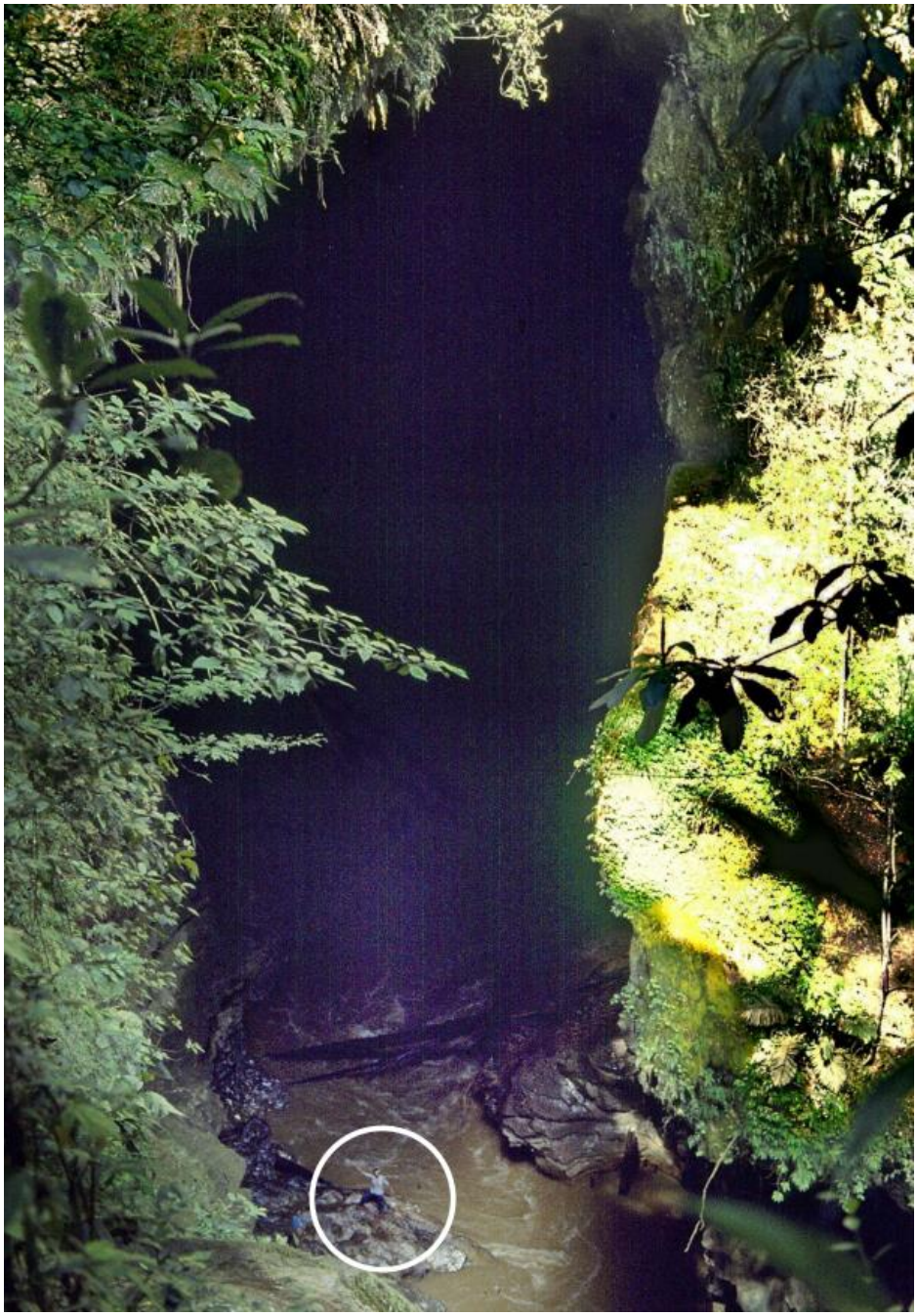
	6. **Namure**	S 5° 13’ 37.1” E 151°28’ 56.2” Z = 440 m asl Tuke, Manang River	15 000 - 20 000 / - / Max unknown Not tapped	***A, Ec*** *The spring is issuing from large cave entrance developed in the Yalam limestones.*	Jean-Paul Sounier and cave expedition team
	7. **Ora**	S 5° 11’ 57.2” E 151°40’ 53.8” Z = 660 m asl Ora Iso/ Esis rivers	3000 - 5000 / - / Max unknown Not tapped	***A, Ec*** *The gravity waterfall spring is issuing from Yalam limestones. Catchment size is several km² with karst features (“megadoline”).*	Jean-Paul Sounier and cave expedition team

MIKAS – Tobio

Location of Tobio spring



The Iaro River downstream of Tobio Spring (photo by Howard Beck)



Tobio Spring - note person for scale (photo by Howard Beck)

Looking out of the entrance to upper Tobio Cave (photo by Howard Beck)

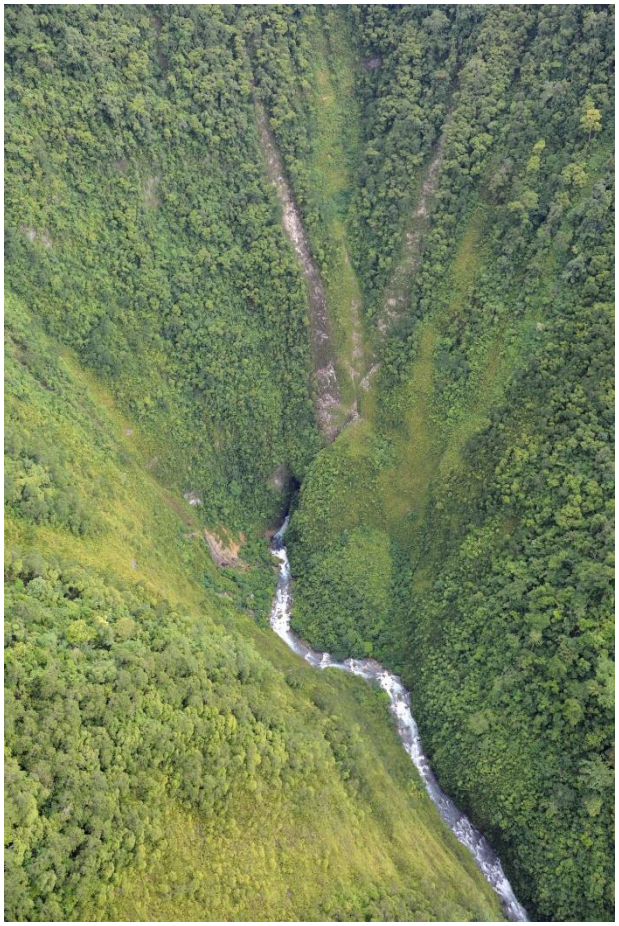
MIKAS – Berenice's Hair

Berenice Hair waterfall. Photo by Jean-Paul Sounier

MIKAS – Mageni

Mageni spring discharge points. Photo by Jean-Paul Sounier

MIKAS – Matali resurgence



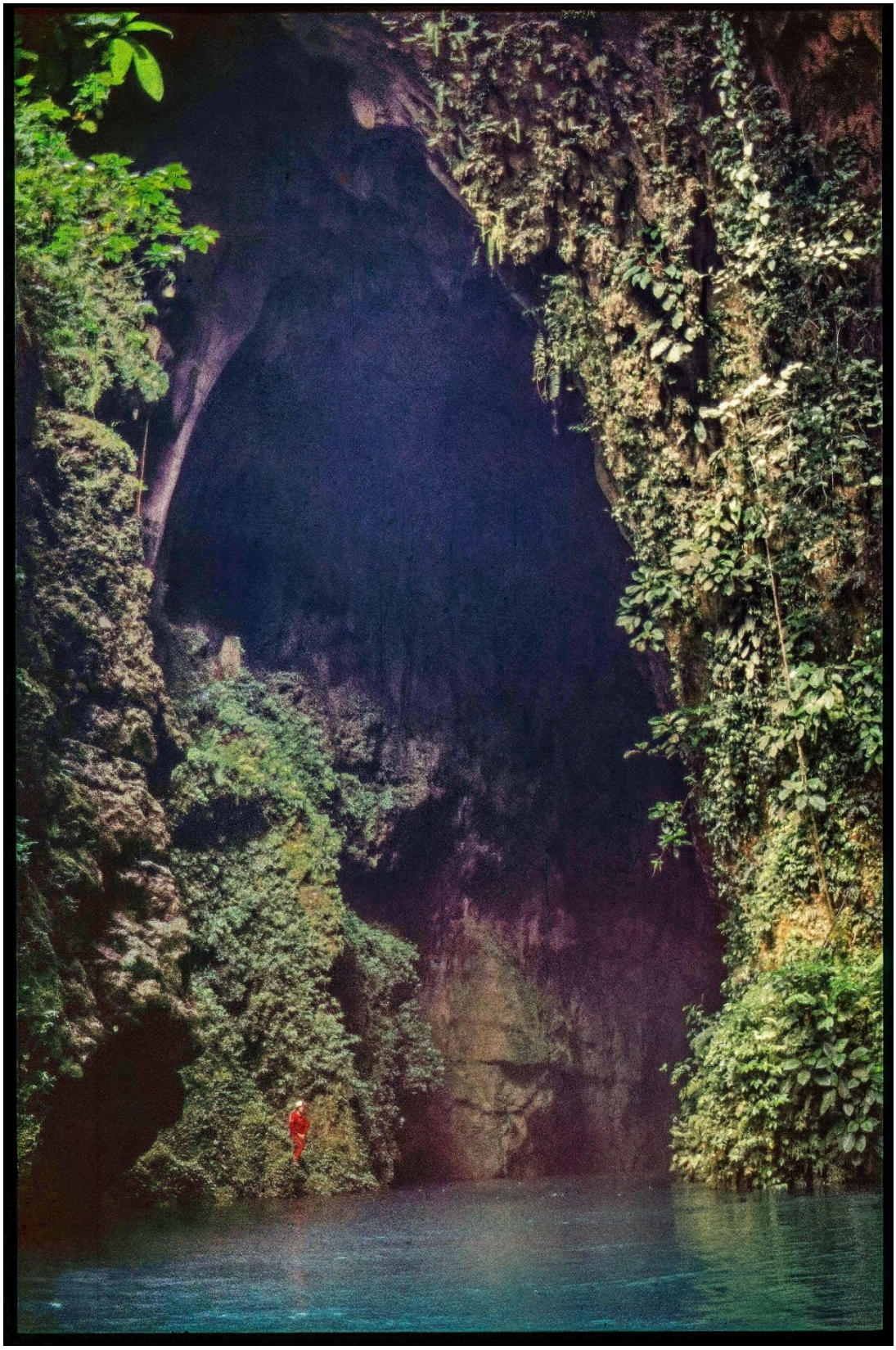
Matali resurgence. Photo by Jean-Paul Sounier

Matali resurgence. Photo by Jean-Paul Sounier

MIKAS – Mayang

Mayang gravity spring. Photo by Jean-Paul Sounier

MIKAS – Namure



Namure resurgence. Photo by Luc-Henri Fage

MIKAS – Ora

Ora waterfall spring. Photo by Jean-Paul Sounier