



Sustaining Fisheries in Tun Mustapha Park

Results of Sustainable Fisheries Workshop
23/24 September 2010



Participants at the Sustainable Fisheries Workshop identified and agreed upon a common vision for the commercial fishing industry.

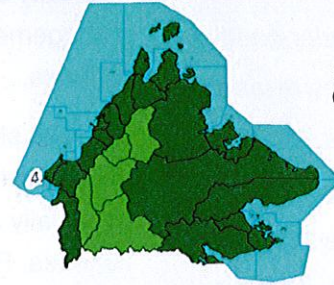
Tun Mustapha Park (TMP) will support sustainable fisheries through zoning, incorporation of the stakeholders' vision for sustainable fisheries and measures in TMP's Management Plan.

Fisheries in Sabah

Approximately 10% of total fish catch in Malaysia is from Sabah, caught from fishing areas totaling 51,360 square kilometers.*

Laut Cina Selatan

22,394 km²
(44% Total)



Laut Sulu

16,852 km²
(33% Total)

Laut Sulawesi

11,844 km²
(23% Total)

Jumlah : 51,360 KM²

Fisheries in Tun Mustapha Park*, Kudat ~ The Way Forward

There has been a change in demand for marine resources in Kudat. The ever expanding nature of the fishing industry has given rise to many challenges in fisheries management. These include destructive fishing activities, encroachment into restricted areas, limited resources for enforcement, smuggling of high-value species such as the humphead wrasse (*Cheilinus undulatus*), coral and turtles, pollution from plantations and factories, negative impacts of global warming on resources and marine habitats, the lack of use of Turtle Excluder Devices and the lack of awareness on the impacts of lights used by purse seiners.

Vision for the Commercial Fishing Industry in TMP

Fisheries management is conducted holistically, taking into account the conservation of marine ecosystems, the protection of species and the well being of local communities. Commercial fishing activities are conducted sustainably in Tun Mustapha Park, whereby fisheries resources continue to support the socio-economic development of local communities and demand for seafood from within and beyond the area. All stakeholders including government agencies, private sector, fishermen and local communities work together to manage Tun Mustapha Park.



The workshop engaged the commercial fishing industry in Kudat. It was held amidst rising awareness of the critical state of seafood resources in the area, and gathered input for the planning of TMP.

*proposed

+ An Introduction to Fisheries Management in Sabah. Presentation by Mr. Lawrence Kisso, Department of Fisheries Sabah.

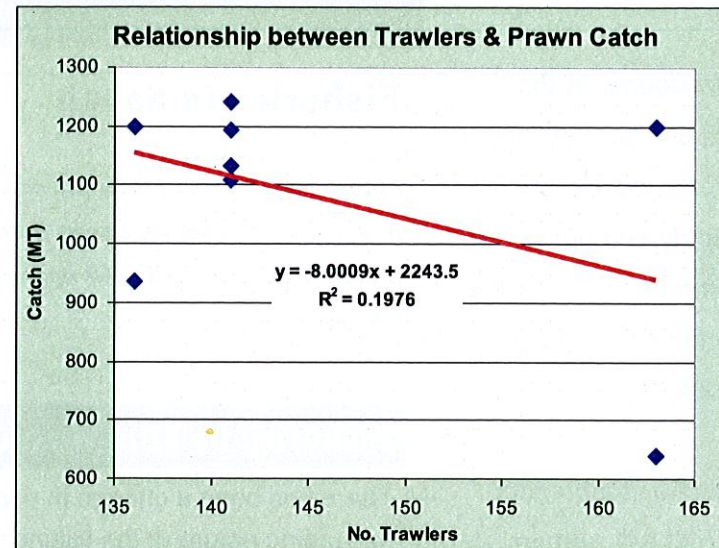
Status of Fisheries in the proposed Tun Mustapha Park

Trend analysis of Trawl Landings in Kudat

There are two major commercial fishing gears used in TMP, i.e. trawlers and purse seines. A study on both commercial fishing gears within the waters of TMP was conducted to assess

feasibility of establishing management of both fisheries.

Analysis shows a general decline in resources especially for trawl fisheries. Fishermen are changing to purse seines to improve fishing efficiency through the use of bright lights. There is a need for gear specific management to address overfishing.



Results show weak negative correlation between number of trawlers and prawn catch in TMP.*

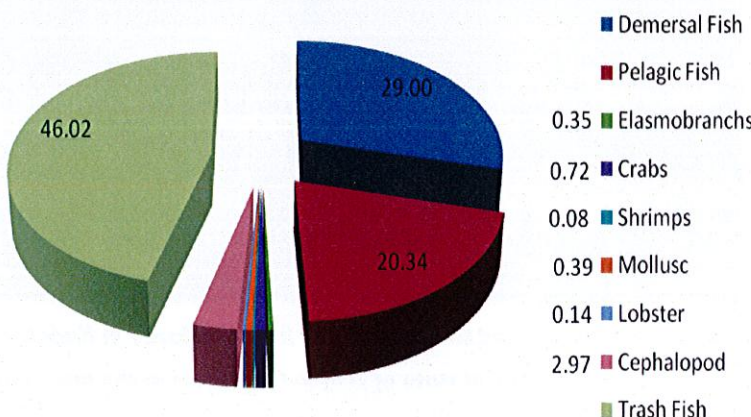
Demersal Fish Resource Stock Assessment

A demersal fish resource assessment was conducted within the waters of the proposed TMP in 2009 by the Bintawa Fisheries Research Institute as part of their demersal fish resource stock assessment of the Malaysian side of the Sulu Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion (SSME).

Results specifically for Kudat and its surrounding area indicated a high number of fish species found in the area (213 species), and average catch rate of 135.85kg/hr – with trash fish (46%), demersal fish (29%) and pelagic fish (20%) as the major components. As a comparison, a similar study conducted in 1972 within the inshore area of Sabah's West Coast area recorded an average catch rate ranging from 450 – 550 kg/hr.**

KK MANCHONG Trawl Average Catch Rate (in percentage)

Composition for SSME-I (Kudat) Waters East Coast Sabah 2009.**



The recent assessment in the Kudat area concluded that overfishing of demersal fish resources is occurring and recommended for a pre-cautionary approach to fisheries management through reducing the level of demersal fisheries resource exploitation.

Better understanding of fisheries resources and the impacts of fishing activities to the ecosystem is important in establishing a fisheries management plan in TMP.

* Manjaji-Matusmoto, M. 2010. Preliminary results of study on commercial fisheries within the waters of the proposed Tun Mustapha Park (TMP), Kudat district. Sustainable Fisheries Workshop.

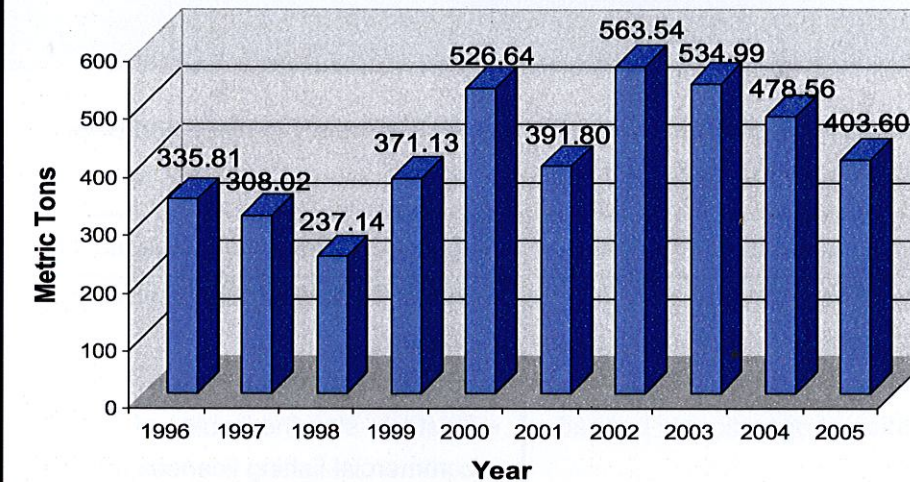
** Mahd. Shaari Bin Sam Abdul Latif. 1976. Demersal Fish Resource Surveys and Problems of Fisheries Resources Management. Vide Assessment of Marine Fisheries Resources of Malaysia. Fisheries Bulletin N. 15. Ministry of Agriculture, Malaysia.

*** FRI Bintawa, 2009. Demersal Fish Resource Stock Assessment of the East Coast Sabah – The Sulu-Sulawesi Seas EEZ of Malaysia.

Live Reef Fish Trade in Kudat

High demand in Hong Kong and China drives overfishing of reef fishes in Kudat's local waters. The use of destructive fishing methods (cyanide fishing) destroys coral reef habitat that is important for the live reef fish trade. Catching of juvenile fish for aquaculture grow-out also raises concerns on the sustainability of the trade due to related practices, such as fish bombing for feed and pollution from excess feed.

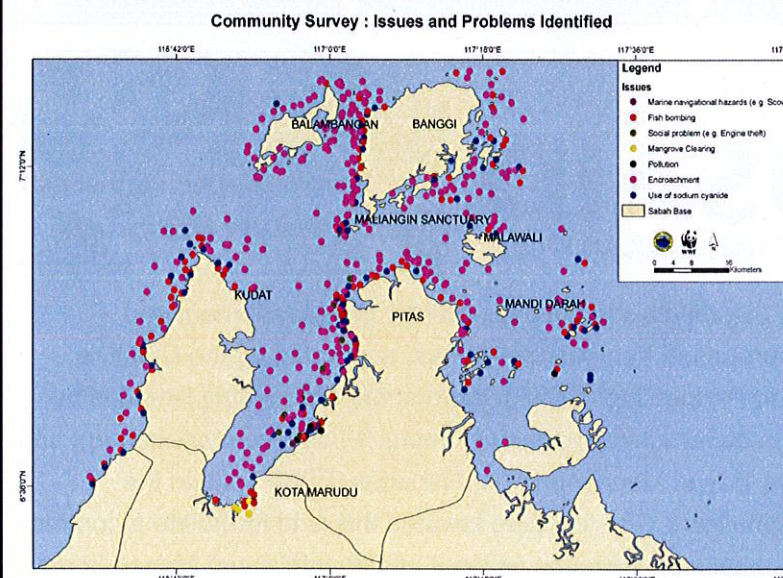
Live Fishes from 1996 to 2005, Sabah



Statistics show declining live fish export over the period 2002-2005. However, actual decrease could be at a more alarming rate as live fish exported from Sabah could be caught in the waters of the Philippines and Indonesia.*

Conflict in Resource Use – Local communities speak out

A community survey conducted from 2006 to 2007 by Sabah Parks and WWF-Malaysia indicated both traditional and commercial fisheries would support better fisheries management. Local communities highlighted issues most relevant to them, including encroachment of fishing vessels into their traditional fishing zones. They support the establishment of no-take zones (NTZ) for recovery of fisheries resources and collaborative management to provide opportunities for them to be involved in resource management.



A high percentage (86%) agreed that No-Take Zones are beneficial for TMP. Concerns regarding the current status of fisheries include: fishing not providing good and regular income; future prospects not being good due to declining fish stocks.**

Traders groups, such as the Philippine's Palawan Live Reef Fish Trade Association (PALIFTA), are being established to ensure sustainability of the live reef fish trade and protect local fishing communities.

Spatial zoning for fisheries is important to protect fish habitat and avoid conflict in resource use.

* Wong, I., 2010. Live Reef Fish Trade in Kudat. Kudat Fisheries Workshop.

** TMP Community Survey, 2006-2007. Sabah Parks & WWF-Malaysia.

The TMP

Management Plan will support the principle objective of Sabah Parks which is to preserve areas which are of geographical, geological, biological or historical significance.

Visi Industri Perikanan Komersil untuk Taman Tun Mustapha

Pengurusan perikanan dijalankan secara menyeluruh dan mengambil kira pemuliharaan ekosistem marin, perlindungan spesies, dan kebajikan penduduk tempatan di kawasan Taman Tun Mustapha. Aktiviti perikanan komersil dijalankan secara mampan di mana sumber perikanan dapat menampung perkembangan sosio-ekonomi penduduk tempatan serta permintaan makanan laut secara berterusan. Semua pihak berkepentingan termasuk pihak kerajaan, pihak swasta, pihak nelayan dan penduduk tempatan bekerjasama untuk mengurus Taman Tun Mustapha.

Mechanisms for managing fisheries, which are both currently in place and being planned, are needed to achieve this vision.

Current Management Mechanisms	Proposed Management Mechanisms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensing of fishing gear used; • Issuing of permits / import and export certifications including CITES; • Identification of operational / banned areas; • Zoning of aquaculture activities; • Placement of artificial reefs; • Implementation of enforcement and punishment; • Regional cooperation: Coral Triangle Initiative and Sulu-Sulawesi Marine Ecoregion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of Turtle Excluder Devices by trawlers; • 'Exit Plan' for fish trawlers; • Restrict / stop the issuing of commercial fishing licences (except for deep sea fishing); • Promote 'full cycle mariculture'; • Community Based Fisheries Management (CBFM) within TMP; • Prepare Fisheries Management Plan within four (4) years as part of the TMP Management Plan.

Visit us at
www.wwf.org.my

CONTACT DETAILS

WWF-Malaysia
Suite 1-6-W11
6th Floor, CPS Tower,
Centre Point Complex
No. 1, Jalan Centre Point
88800 Kota Kinabalu
Sabah, Malaysia
Tel: +6088 262 420
Fax: +6088 242 531
contactus@wwf.org.my

WWF-Malaysia
Kudat Field Office
Lot 2, No. 0541
Jln. Tamanggang Kerantud
Taman Paka Choon
P. O. Box 389
89058 Kudat
Sabah, Malaysia
Tel/Fax : +6088 612 339
www.mamengstories.blogspot.com

All images are the property of
WWF-Malaysia

This brochure was prepared by
Marina Aman Sham



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE



Coral Triangle Support Partnership



This project is part of the initiative to build support for the gazettement and establishment of the proposed Tun Mustapha Park, supported by the USAID's Coral Triangle Support Partnership (CTSP). It promotes sustainable fisheries by working with the commercial fishing industry to improve fisheries management and implement Ecosystem-Based Management of Fisheries (EBMF) within the proposed Tun Mustapha Park. The first step towards this is to formulate a common vision and goals for sustainable fisheries as input into an integrated Management Plan for the park.