



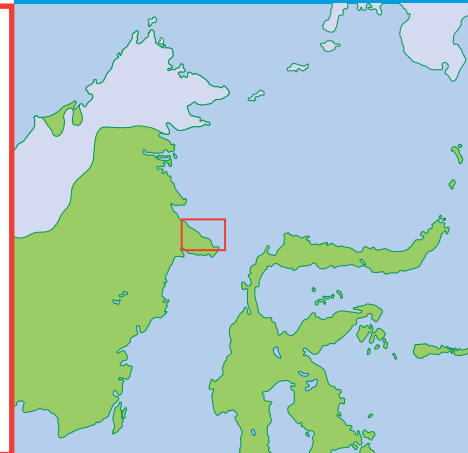
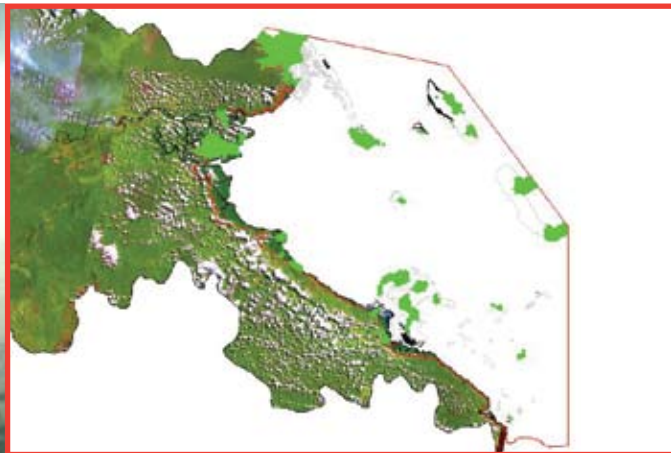
The Heart of Coral Triangle

BERAU, EAST KALIMANTAN

Its central location within the whole Coral Triangle region makes it suitable for Berau to relate itself as the most 'vital' organ in the Coral Triangle body. The proposition will be hard to argue when considering the regency, passed by two important rivers in Borneo island, Segah and Kelay, is home for the 444 species of hermatypic corals species (the second largest after Raja Ampat), 8 seagrass species, 872 reef fish and 9 cetaceans. It is also the foraging and nesting ground of 2 out of 6 marine turtle species found in Indonesia, green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) and hawksbill (*Eretmochelys imbricata*). Not to mention the famous saltwater lake, Kakaban in Derawan islands, inhabited by the very unique 4 endemic jellyfish species.

As much as 164.501 people inhabited the regency according to statistic from 2007 with 41,16% of them living in the coastal sub-district. Berau's primary income mostly comes from mining and forests exploitation. Coal mine is the priority source of income for Berau while many forests in the area have been converted into palm oil plantations. And although tourism has become another source of income for the region, it is still lacking a proper management. The region's management and utilization of its local income are still very much oriented to terrestrial usage than to marine and coastal zone management.

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THREATS

Berau is faced with several environmental threats, including:

- Land conversions, of mangrove forests to aquaculture ponds.
- Mining and logging activities causing the entry of sediment into the waters.
- Destructive fishing, using explosives, potassium cyanide, or other type of unfriendly fishing gears.
- Illegal trade of turtle eggs, illegal capture of turtles and an the imperil of turtle's feeding and nesting ground
- Overfishing.

OUR ACTIONS

Berau's conservation program started in the early 2000 with the turtle conservation program (flagship species) conducted by WWF Indonesia. In 2004, WWF succeeded in advocating the revocation of auction licenses of turtle eggs from the local government to the private sector.



Further on, under the TNC-WWF Marine Joint Program, major programs have been developed and are still maintained to this date which includes:

1. **Community Outreach**

Conduct community outreach through public awareness activities, organizing communities, group advocacies, capacity building at grassroots level through trainings, alternative livelihoods development and to ensure community representations in the Collaboration Board to ensure participative (bottom up) management took place.

2. **Monitoring**

Conduct surveys and collect bio-monitoring data (fish, corals, benthos, seagrass and mangrove), monitor the resource use pattern, spawning aggregation sites, and reefs health to strengthen the basis of data analysis which later on will be used as zoning recommendations of Berau's Regional Marine Conservation Area.

3. **Supervision**

In addition to monitoring activities, the monitoring division also conducts resource surveillance activities. An Integrated Security Team for Marine Conservation Area has been established based on the Regent Decree Number 206 Year 2007 and a Floating Surveillance Station "Penyu Laut" is made available to support The surveillance activities are supported with the operations of the.

4. **Turtle Monitoring**

The turtle ring monitor team has been conducting conservation activities around Berau's four nesting islands (Derawan, Sangalaki, Mataha and Bilang-bilangan), which further divided into several activities including: joint patrol with Natural Resource Conservation staffs, feeding ground monitoring, relocation of nests to hatcheries and nesting beaches clean up.

5. **Policy**

A strategic program to support the establishment of Berau Regional Marine Conservation Area. The program ensures the establishment of a participatory institution and able to guide issues on fisheries resource management.

THE ACHIEVEMENTS

TNC-WWF Marine Joint Program works around coastal regions and small islands in Berau and has achieved the followings:

- Through the issuance of Regent Decree Number 31 Year 2005, Berau Regency established its 1.2 million hectares conservation area which covers 8 coastal sub-districts comprise of 27 fishermen villages.
- Through the "Pride Campaign" program, TNC-WWF Marine Joint Program actively socialized the established conservation area to various society levels in the region.
- Successfully help established 10 fishermen cooperatives and more than 13 community groups living along the coast of Berau Regency. These groups are projected to be the gate of community aspirations in the management of Berau Regional Marine Conservation Area.
- Since 2004, more than 300 fishermen have received capacity building through MPA (Marine Protected Areas) Trainings.
- Successfully encourage and facilitate the local Education Agency to include environment education in the local content curriculum of all primary schools all over coastal sub-districts of Berau Regency.
- Perception Monitoring conducted in 2009 shows increased support every year from local communities towards the Conservation Area program. The increase is in line with the increased level of fishermen awareness about using environmentally friendly fishing gear.

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