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# Social-Economic and Community Culture as the Basis for Determining a Special Zone in Kutai National Park (TNK) Kutai Timur Regency (Study of Social Reality in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency of Indonesia)

# Muhammad Rodiansyah, Kasuwi Saiban, and Kridawati Sadhana

University of Merdeka Malang, Indonesia

## **ABSTRACT**

Seeing the current condition of Kutai National Park, it is necessary to evaluate the proposed special zone activities associated with ethnic typologies and perceptions of people who inhabit this area, the biophysical potential of the area related to the form of land management in this area. The purpose of this study is to examine the feasibility of a proposed special zone in the Kutai National Park based on land use patterns which are divided into three lanes namely green lane, interaction lane and cultivation lane associated with their potential, social, economic and ecological uses. This study used a descriptive qualitative research method with informants from the local government, customary leaders, Kutai National Park managers and local communities. The results of this study indicate that the social and economic life of people is influenced by habits / behavior based on these tribes in managing nature and treating nature, they apply their respective local wisdom to be able to preserve nature and make their lives prosperous. The community wants the status of a Kutai National Park land enclave, not a zoning system either a special zone let alone a relocation. The community needs protection, certainty and the right to be fostered economically by the government, because the status of the National Park attached to the land they inhabit at this time gives a sense of worry that later they will be expelled. The community wants the status of a Kutai National Park land enclave, not a zoning system either a special zone let alone a relocation. The community needs protection, certainty and the right to be fostered economically by the government, because the status of the National Park attached to the land they inhabit at this time gives a sense of worry that later they will be expelled. The community wants the status of a Kutai National Park land enclave, not a zoning system either a special zone let alone a relocation. The community needs protection, certainty and the right to be fostered economically by the government, because the status of the National Park attached to the land they inhabit at this time gives a sense of worry that later they will be expelled.

**Keywords:** Zoning, Social, Economy, Culture, Kutai National Park.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The concept applied in the management of national parks is ecosystem-based area management. The implementation of the principles of ecosystem-based management requires the cooperation or collaboration of all stakeholders, so as to enable the satisfaction of interested parties in formulating the balance of ecological, economic and social functions of a forest ecosystem (Von Gadow Suhendang, 2004) [1]. According to the Minister of Forestry Regulation No. 19 of 2004, collaborative management is defined as the implementation of an activity or the handling of a problem in order to help increase the effectiveness of joint and synergistic area management by the parties on the basis of mutual understanding and agreement.

The condition of Kutai National Park is getting worse. Almost the entire area of TNK which is located on the Bontang-Sangatta axis has been replaced by residential areas, plantations, and dozens of swallow nests. In the last 10 years or so, the face of TNK has been changing. Along the 60 km which is the Bontang-Sangatta route, the only view that is presented is banana, corn, papaya trees. There is also a dimly lit cafe at Km 53, gas stations at Km 56, and a karaoke place at Km 47. Recently, offices such as banking have been established in the TNK area. It is ironic, knowing that the Pemkab Kutim has issued another permit in an area with the status of a national park. Not only granting building permits, the Regency Government also continues to provide assistance in the form of seeds to farmers who are cultivating in TNK.

Based on these conditions, the area that has been worked on by the community in TNK was proposed as a special zone by several parties who are members of the Kutai Partners, namely the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), the Indonesian Environmental Information Center, the Foundation for Environmental Management, Karib Kutai and related

# International Journal of Research in Social Science and Humanities (IJRSS), Vol. 2 (6), August-2020

stakeholders in in 2010 (Mulyono, 2010) [2]. This proposal process is still ongoing and is currently under discussion at the level of the House of Representatives (DPR) of the Republic of Indonesia. The progress of the ongoing process shows that there is an understanding between stakeholders to form a special management in the form of a conservation village or special zone. The dynamics that lead to this zoning change require scientific consideration in the evaluation of the existing zoning to accommodate changes and proposed special zones in TNK.

The proposal for a special zone as a solution to population pressure within the TNK area, to accommodate the interests of the people who already lived in the area before being designated/defined as a national park and a means of supporting their lives. The existence of the community after the establishment of a national park and the recognition of a definitive village by the local government will have an impact on the management of other zones, so it is necessary to reevaluate the condition of TNK and change the management pattern of TNK (Subarudi, 2010) [3].

Differences in the management objectives of a zone whose spatial planning is not in accordance with the biophysical aspect can have a negative impact on other zones. Looking at the current condition of TNK, it is necessary to evaluate the proposed special zone in relation to the ethnic typology and perceptions of the people who inhabit this area, the biophysical potential of the area related to the form of land management in this area.

#### 2. LITERATURE REVIEW

#### 2.1. Major Theories of Social Reality

Social construction is a contemporary sociological theory initiated by Peter L. Berger and Thomas Luckmann. According to the two sociologists, this theory is intended as a theoretical and systematic study of the sociology of knowledge (systematic theoretical reasoning), and not as a historical review of the development of scientific disciplines. Therefore, this theory does not focus on things such as character reviews, influences and the like. But more emphasis on human actions as creative actors and their social reality (Golhasani, 2016) [4].

Social reality is a social construction created by individuals. Individuals are free human beings who make relationships between humans with one another. The individual becomes the determinant in the social world which is constructed based on his will. Individuals are not social victims, but are creative production and reproduction machines in constructing their social world (Bungin, 2001:4) [5].

#### 2.2. Social Economic Theory of Society

Some of the reasons in the Socio-Economic Study of the Community as the Basis for Determining the Special Zone of Kutai National Park can be stated in several theories. This problem is approached through a different perspective, namely: (Syamsurijal, 2018) [6]

- 1) Modernization theory which explains that poverty is mainly caused by internal factors or factors contained within the country concerned; and
- 2) The dependency theory or structural theory is more concerned with external factors as the cause of poverty. Poverty is seen mainly as a result of the work of external forces which causes the country concerned to fail to carry out its development.

#### 2.3. Social Interaction Theory

Social interaction can be defined as dynamic social relationships. The social relations in question can be in the form of relationships between one individual and another, between one group and another, or between groups and individuals. In the interaction there is also a symbol, where a symbol is defined as something whose value or meaning is given to it by those who use it.

The process of social interaction according to Herbert Blumer is when humans act on something on the basis of the meaning that something has for humans. Then the meaning that something has comes from the interaction between a person and each other. And lastly, meaning is not permanent but can be changed, changes to meaning can occur through the process of interpretation that people do when they encounter something. This process is also known as the interpretive process.

Social interaction can occur when between two individuals or groups there is social contact and communication. Social contact is the first stage of the occurrence of social relationships. Communication is the delivery of information and giving interpretations and reactions to the information conveyed. Karp and Yoels point out several things that can be a source of information for the initiation of communication or social interaction. Sources of information can be divided into two, namely Physical Characteristics and Appearance. Physical characteristics, are everything that an individual has since birth which includes gender, age, and race. Appearance here can include physical attractiveness, body shape, dress appearance, and discourse.

# 2.4. Social Response Theory

Response comes from the word response, which means a reply or response (reaction). Response is a psychological term used to describe reactions to stimuli received by the five senses. The things that support and underlie the size of a response are attitudes, perceptions and participation. The response in the process is preceded by a person's attitude because attitude is a person's tendency or willingness to behave when faced with a certain stimulus. In general, it can be said that there are three factors that influence a person's response, namely:

The person concerned who sees and tries to give an interpretation of what he sees is influenced by his attitudes, motives, interests and expectations.

- 1) The target of the response, in the form of people, objects or events. The characteristics of the target usually affect the response of the viewer. In other words, the movement, sound, size, actions and other characteristics of the target response also determine the way people view it.
- 2) Situational factors, the response can be seen contextually, which means in which situation the response arises gets attention. The situation is a factor that plays a role in the formation or response of a person.

## 3. RESEARCH METHOD

# 3.1. Types of research

In this study, the authors used a qualitative descriptive research method. Descriptive research is intended to obtain a more indepth picture of the socio-economic community as the basis for determining the special zone of Kutai National Park in East Kutai Regency by using descriptive research methods and qualitative approaches so that the data source comes from interviews, the data generated in interviews are primary data (Suwandi, 2008) [7].

#### 3.2. Research focus

The focus of this research can be defined as follows:

- 1) Socio-economic and cultural conditions of the community towards zoning in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency
  - a. Community social life
  - b. Profession
  - c. Income
  - d. Policies / customary law
- 2) Community aspirations for the policy of establishing a special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency
  - a. Accept
  - b. Reject

# 3.3. Data analysis technique

In accordance with the type of research above, the researchers used an interactive model from Miles and Huberman to analyze the research data. Activities in qualitative data analysis are carried out interactively and take place continuously until complete, so that the data is saturated. An interactive model analysis (Miles, Huberman and Saldana, 2014) which consists of three components, namely: Data Reduction, Data Display and Conclusion Drawing/Verifications [8].

#### 4. DISCUSSION

# 4.1. Socio-economic and cultural conditions of the community as the basis for determining a special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency

The people in the buffer zone and within the TNK area come from various ethnic groups such as Kutai, Dayak, Banjar, Bugis, Tator and Javanese. Kampung Jawa is an area where people who come from Javanese ethnicity live in the area. The majority of Javanese villagers are transmigrants who came to East Kalimantan Province in 1992. The pattern of interaction with the local environment and the pattern of farming developed by these ethnic groups is quite diverse. In addition to owning their own arable land, local residents also clear land within the TNK area. At first the population of residents who entered the TNK area to clear land and try to farm was about 50 families from the ethnic groups mentioned above.

The interaction of the Javanese ethnic community with the surrounding biophysical environment is quite close, this can be seen from the clearing of arable land, the intensity of the plant cultivation system, types of plants, and cropping patterns applied in the area and buffer zone of TNK. In addition to obtaining arable land, the community also uses tree species found in the area for

# International Journal of Research in Social Science and Humanities (IJRSS), Vol. 2 (6), August-2020

building materials, ships and firewood. The Kutai and Bugis ethnics have some similarities in carrying out their farming activities, but the maintenance of Bugis ethnic plants is more intensive.

Likewise, the motivation for encroachment on TNK areas varies widely. Some are solely to obtain additional arable land for the cultivation of seasonal food crops and long-term annual crops such as rubber and oil palm, but there are also those who have other purposes such as control and buying and selling of land. The results of research on encroachment and cultivation patterns that occur in the TNK area conducted by Subandi (2013) stated that three cultivation patterns were found, namely the original pattern, the adaptation pattern and the complication pattern.

#### 4.2. Community assumptions about the policy of establishing a special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency

Community income is influenced by the origin and livelihood of the community. People with intensive farming livelihoods in the form of rice fields are willing to be moved by changing the location of the land, while people with extensive agriculture prefer the status of the area to be enclave due to indications of high-calorie coal content with a resource value of 6,000-7,000 totaling 2.5 tons and an estimated cost of around \$ 92 billion dollars (Official website of Kutai National Park, 2008 in Arrayun, 2015), so this valuable land is an investment to be traded. People who live and manage land in the form of gardens with a side business selling basic necessities, want the status of the area in the form of a special zone because this community has a high level of dependence on land resources and a fairly high perception of conservation [9]. Communities that do not respond are newcomers and the land being managed is immature.

The areas released as APL from the TNK area are only areas that have become settlements such as Teluk Pandan, Sangkima and South Sangatta Districts including Sangkima Airport. The areas that have been acquired are areas that are considered to be too open and have experienced ecological changes that are quite far from what they should be (conservation areas).

A special zone is part of a national park because it is an unavoidable condition that there are groups of people and their life support facilities living before the area is designated as a national park. The designation of a special zone to accommodate the interests of conservation and the activities of community groups living in the area prior to its designation/determination as a national park and its life support facilities as well as unavoidable interests in the form of telecommunications facilities, transportation and electricity facilities, with land use directed at its use as a place to live. living, social interaction and traditional inheritance systems as well as the preservation of useful plants and animals with the conditions of the village, hamlet or village landscape (Koesmaryandi, 2012) [10], refers to several regulations of the Minister of Forestry, namely Permenhut No. 56/Menhut-II/2006 concerning Guidelines for Zoning National Parks, Permenhut No. 19/Menhut-II/2004 concerning Management of Nature Reserves and Natural Conservation Areas and Minister of Forestry Regulation No.8/Menhut-II/2013 concerning Conservation-Based Rural Community Forestry Development.

When asked about the public's views on the policies issued by the East Kutai Regency Government, especially those related to TNK regarding the enclave issue, that basically the community wants to be regulated as long as the agreement is clear. Whoever will manage TNK, whether it is the Central Government or the Regional Government, it doesn't matter as long as there is clarity both in terms of legality in the form of rules / regulations and agreements and clarifying their respective authorities, namely between the Regional Government and the Central Government.

Community involvement in TNK today is different from 5-7 years ago. In the past they still respected the boundaries that had been carried out, there were even residents who were willing to be relocated to other places if they were in the TNK area, but for now they are ready to die to defend the land they inhabit with the argument that this is the land of their ancestors. This is of course due to the lack of clarity about the existing boundaries.

**Table 1. Existing Model** 

Table1. Existing Model							
Phenomenon	Research Problem	Focus Problem	Problem indicator	Case Finding	Proposition Minor	Major Proposition	
Socio- Economic and Community Culture as the Basis for Determining Special Zones in Kutai National Park (TNK) East Kutai Regency (Study of Social Reality in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency)	What are the socio- economic and cultural conditions of the community as the basis for establishing a special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency?	Socio- economic and cultural conditions of the community towards zoning in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency	a. Community social life b. Profession c. Income d. Policies / customary law	1. The social condition of the community as the basis for determining the special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency is that the people who inhabit KNP and around KNP are heterogeneous communities with various ethnic groups. The Dayak, Kutai, Javanese and Bugis tribes are the majority of the tribes that have inhabited this area since the beginning.  2. The economic conditions of the community as the basis for determining the special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency are people who inhabiting KNP and the area around KNP, making a living from the results of farming as plantation farmers, be it oil palm, rubber or fruit trees, and traders who open stalls and shops along the Sangatta-Bontang axis road. The Dayak and Kutai tribes usually cultivate mountain rice in addition to	1. The social conditions of the people in the Kutai National Park area consist of heterogeneo us people from various ethnic groups  2. Condition economy of the people in the Kutai National Park area are mostly fruit, vegetable and plantation farmers with mediocre income  3. Condition  The culture of the people in the Kutai National Park area in land and plant cultivation is influenced by the local wisdom of the local tribes	The implementation of the theory of social interaction as a dynamic social relationship in the form of a relationship between one individual and another, between one group and another, or between groups and individuals. This will be implemented as a basis the determination of a special zone in the Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency, so that the socio-economic and cultural conditions of the community are very decisive in determining the special zone in the Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency.	

www.ijrss.org Page 21

DOI: <u>10.47505/IJRSS.2021.9198</u>

Phenomenon	Research Problem	Focus Problem	Problem indicator	Case Finding	Proposition Minor	Major Proposition
				gardening which they plant on dry land. In addition, there are also many people who live from wood and non- timber forest products.  3. The cultural		
				condition of the community as the basis for determining the special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency is that the social and economic life of the community is influenced by culture and customs/ behavior based on these tribes in cultivating nature and treating nature, they apply their respective local		
	What are the people's aspirations	Communit y aspirations	a. Accept b. Reject	wisdom to keep nature and prosper their lives  Communities need certainty about the status of land	The community wants the enclave status	Implementation of community empowerment
	for the policy of establishing a special zone in the Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency?	for the policy of establishin g a special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency		ownership to live and cultivate. The community wants the enclave status of KNP land, not a zoning system, neither special zones nor relocation.	of the Kutai National Park land	theory that describes the distribution of power and resources in society, about the functions of organizations and systems in society to defend themselves. It can be implemented as the basis for establishing a special zone in the Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency.

www.ijrss.org Page 22

DOI: <u>10.47505/IJRSS.2021.9198</u>

Phenomenon	Research Problem	Focus Problem	Problem indicator	Case Finding	Proposition Minor	Major Proposition
						So that community
						empowerment in
						which there are
						various aspects can
						determine enclave
						decisions and the
						zoning system in
						Kutai National Park
						East Kutai Regency.

#### 5. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

#### 5.1. Conclusion

- 1) The socio-economic and cultural conditions of the community as the basis for determining the special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency are:
  - a. Social conditions, that the people who inhabit TNK and around TNK are heterogeneous communities with various ethnicities. The Dayak, Kutai, Javanese and Bugis tribes are the majority of the tribes that have inhabited this area since the beginning. Dense villages in the area along the Sangatta-Balikpapan axis road which is the entirety of the TNK area.
  - b. The economic conditions of the people who live in TNK and the area around TNK live from the results of farming as plantation farmers, both oil palm, rubber and fruit trees and traders who open stalls and shops along the Sangatta-Bontang axis. The Dayak and Kutai tribes usually cultivate mountain rice in addition to gardening which they plant on dry land. In addition, there are also many people who live from wood and non-timber forest products.
  - c. The cultural condition of the community, that the social and economic life of the community is influenced by the habits/behavior based on these tribes in cultivating nature and treating nature, they apply their respective local wisdom to keep nature and prosper their lives.
- 2) The community's aspiration for the establishment of a special zone in Kutai National Park, East Kutai Regency is that the community wants the status of TNK to be clear and immediately decided by the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. Communities need certainty about the status of land ownership to live and cultivate. The community wants the enclave status of TNK land, not a zoning system, neither special zones nor relocation. Communities need protection, certainty and the right to be fostered economically by the government, because the status of the National Park attached to the land they currently inhabit gives them a sense of worry that later they will be evicted.

# 5.2. Suggestion

- The central government of the Ministry of Forestry, in particular PHKA and TNK Halls, must accelerate the certainty of boundary demarcation and zoning within the TNK area, so that law enforcement against violations that occur within the area can be dealt with in accordance with applicable laws and regulations;
- 2) There is a need for a temporary cessation of all activities outside of forestry interests that are ongoing within the TNK area (moratorium), until the status of TNK is clear and confirmed;
- 3) The Ministry of Forestry made changes to the area, namely releasing the TNK area with clear boundaries as an enclave area that functions as a buffer zone for TNK and the activities of the residents within it are limited and adjusted to the function of the buffer zone according to Law 5 of 1990;
- 4) The Ministry of Forestry no longer gives approval to extend the lease-to-use forest area agreement for activities carried out by Pertamina.
- 5) Regional Governments no longer issue permits and approvals for the use of TNK areas as a form of borrow-to-use forest areas for coal mining activities.

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