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TO THE PRESENCE OF SUMATRAN TIGER (*Panthera tigris sumatrae*
[Pocock, 1929]) IN TESSO NILO NATIONAL PARK, RIAU

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ABSTRACT

The growth of human population has increased the utilization over forest resources, giving serious pressure toward wildlife habitat, including Sumatran tiger's habitat and its prey. Tesso Nilo National Park, a newly established national park located in Riau is considered one of the very few remaining tropical low land rain forest in Indonesia. It is a home to many endangered wildlife including Sumatran tiger. Nevertheless, Tesso Nilo National Park is facing serious threats from land encroachment and illegal logging activities. The objectives from this research are to investigate the distribution of Sumatran tiger, human activities and prey from the centre of human activities (village), also to investigate the role of human activities and prey toward the distribution of tiger.

Research method used was strip transect. Four transects were placed from the border of three villages (research location) toward national park area. The length of each transects were varied, conditionally adjusted with the site topography, with the maximum length was 5 Km. Three villages as research location representing the different level of human intensity in Tesso Nilo National Park. Methods used for data analysis were non-parametric statistic; Kruskal Wallis Test was used to investigate the group difference and Spearman Method was used to investigate the correlation between distance from centre of human activities with tiger presence, prey presence and human activities.

Tiger presence recorded in research location possibly followed prey availability. Air Hitam and Pontian Mekar showed more prey presences and there were tiger presence recorded in these two locations. Result of analysis showed that distance and number of human activities have positive correlation on tiger presence, however it only occurred in one location and the correlation is not significant. Meanwhile, the result analysis for the relation of distance and human activities to prey presence showed the tendency of decreasing when it is getting far into the forest area and human activities were less occurred. Based on these results, there is a need to improve control and better management on human activities in Tesso Nilo National Park which potentially affecting natural behavior of tiger and its prey, particularly the activities that cause major destruction and depletion of food resources for wildlife.

Keywords: human activities, prey, tiger presence

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**HUMAN-PRE DATOR-PREY RELATION THE DISTRIBUTION OF HUMAN ACTIVITIES AND PREY IN
RELATION TO THE
PRESENCE OF SUMATRAN TIGER (*Panthera tigris sumatrae* [Pocock, 1929]) IN TESSO NILO
NATIONAL PARK,
RIAU**
**HUBUNGANNYA TERHADAP KEBERADAAN HARIMAU SUMATRA
(*Panthera tigris sumatrae* [Pocock, 1929]) DI TAMAN NASIONAL TESSO
NILO, RIAU**

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INTISARI

Peningkatan jumlah populasi manusia telah mendorong meningkatnya pemanfaatan sumberdaya hutan, yang juga memberikan tekanan terhadap satwa liar, termasuk harimau sumatra dan mangsanya. Taman Nasional Tesso Nilo yang berlokasi di Riau disebutkan sebagai satu diantara hutan hujan tropis dataran rendah terakhir di Indonesia. Taman Nasional Tesso Nilo merupakan habitat bagi banyak satwa yang keberadaannya terancam, termasuk harimau sumatra. Meskipun demikian, Taman Nasional Tesso Nilo tidak luput dari ancaman serius berupa penyorobotan lahan dan penebangan liar. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui bagaimana persebaran harimau, manusia dan satwa mangsa dari pusat aktivitas manusia serta mengetahui bagaimana hubungan antara aktivitas manusia dan satwa mangsa terhadap keberadaan harimau.

Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah strip transek. Sebanyak 4 transek masing-masing ditarik dari batas terluar 3 desa lokasi penelitian menuju kawasan Taman Nasional Tesso Nilo. Panjang transek bervariasi disesuaikan dengan kondisi bentang alam dengan panjang maksimal adalah 5 Km. Tiga desa lokasi penelitian merepresentasikan perbedaan intensitas aktivitas manusia di kawasan hutan taman nasional tesso nilo. Metode analisis data yang digunakan adalah statistik non parametrik, Tes Kruskal Wallis untuk mengetahui perbedaan di 3 lokasi dan Metode Spearman untuk mengetahui hubungan antara jarak dengan keberadaan harimau, satwa mangsa dan aktivitas manusia.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan adanya kemungkinan keberadaan harimau lebih dipengaruhi oleh ketersediaan satwa mangsa. Hasil analisis data menunjukkan bahwa jarak dari pusat aktivitas dan jumlah aktivitas manusia memiliki hubungan positif terhadap keberadaan harimau, tapi hanya ditemukan pada satu lokasi penelitian dan hubungannya tidak signifikan. Sedangkan hasil analisis untuk hubungan antara jarak dan aktivitas manusia terhadap keberadaan satwa mangsa menunjukkan kecenderungan penurunan jumlah satwa mangsa ketika semakin jauh memasuki kawasan hutan dan aktivitas manusia lebih sedikit. Hasil tersebut menunjukkan kebutuhan untuk meningkatkan kontrol dan manajemen yang lebih baik terhadap aktivitas manusia di Taman Nasional Tesso Nilo yang berpotensi mempengaruhi perilaku alami harimau dan satwa mangsanya, khususnya aktivitas yang menyebabkan kerusakan skala besar dan berkurangnya sumber-sumber pakan bagi satwa liar.

Kata kunci: aktivitas manusia, harimau sumatra, satwa mangsa

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