

KESESUAIAN EKOLOGIS MANGROVE UNTUK EKOWISATA DI RESORT BAMA, TAMAN NASIONAL BALURAN

Abstrak

Oleh:

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Hutan mangrove merupakan salah satu tipe hutan khas yang hidup sepanjang pantai atau muara sungai yang dipengaruhi oleh pasang surut air laut. Taman Nasional Baluran (TNB) memiliki hutan mangrove yang masih tergolong alami. Hutan mangrove di zona pemanfaatan Resort Bama, TNB merupakan salah satu objek yang saat ini dalam rencana pengembangan program wisata. Namun, perlu adanya penilaian terhadap kesesuaian ekologis supaya kegiatan yang dilakukan tidak merusak ekosistem mangrove. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui karakteristik mangrove dan untuk mengetahui kesesuaian ekologis kawasan mangrove di zona pemanfaatan Resort Bama untuk kegiatan ekowisata.

Penelitian ini dilakukan di mangrove zona pemanfaatan Resort Bama seluas 48,55 ha dengan Intensitas Sampling (IS) sebesar 0,6%. Petak ukur dibagi ke dalam 3 zona mangrove. Data yang diambil meliputi kerapatan mangrove, jenis mangrove, famili mangrove, ketebalan mangrove, jenis burung, reptil, nekton, makrobenthos, karakteristik kawasan dan aksesibilitas kawasan. Analisis data kesesuaian ekologis mangrove untuk ekowisata dilakukan dengan perhitungan Indeks Kesesuaian Wisata (IKW).

Berdasarkan observasi di lapangan, habitat mangrove di zona pemanfaatan Resort Bama memiliki ketebalan mangrove sebesar 75,6 – 696,8 meter, kerapatan vegetasi mangrove sebesar 1652 individu/ha yang terdiri dari 10 jenis mangrove dari 5 famili. Terdapat 10 jenis burung, 1 jenis reptil, 8 jenis nekton, dan 18 jenis makrobenthos. Nilai IKW yang diperoleh adalah 88,4% yang berarti hutan mangrove pada zona pemanfaatan Resort Bama, TNB masuk dalam kategori S2 atau sesuai untuk dikembangkan menjadi kawasan ekowisata mangrove.

Kata Kunci: Mangrove, Taman Nasional Baluran, Indeks Kesesuaian Wisata

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THE ECOLOGICAL SUITABILITY OF MANGROVE FOREST FOR ECOTOURISM IN BAMA RESORT, BALURAN NATIONAL PARK

Abstract

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Mangrove forest is one of the unique forest type that live in coastside or river estuaries that is affected by tides. Baluran National Park owns a mangrove forest that can still be classified as primary forest. The mangrove forest in utilization zone inside the Bama Resort, Baluran National Park is one of the objects that is currently a part of the tourism program development plan. However, an assessment towards the ecological suitability was needed so that the activities that would be done would not damage the mangrove forest. This study aimed to understand characteristics of mangrove and to know the ecological suitability of mangrove forest at utilization zone, Bama Resort for ecotourism.

This study was conducted in mangrove area at utilization zone, Bama Resort about 48,55 ha with sampling intensity 0,6%. These plots were divided into 3 mangrove zones. The collected data comprised of mangrove density, mangrove species, mangrove family, mangrove thickness, bird species, reptile, necton, macrobenthos, characteristics and accessibility of mangrove area. The data analysis of the mangrove forest's ecological suitability for ecotourism activities was done by calculating the Tourism Suitability Index.

Based on field observations, mangrove habitat at utilization zone, Bama Resort had mangrove thickness ranging from 75,6 – 696,8 meters, mangrove vegetation density of 1652 individual/ha, which were consisted of 10 species from 5 different families. There were also 10 species of birds, 1 species of reptile, 8 species of nectons, and 18 species of macrobenthos that were found. The IKW value was 88,4% which meant that the mangrove forest at utilization zone inside the Bama Resort, Baluran National Park was categorized as S2, or suitable to be developed into a mangrove ecotourism area.

Key Words: Mangrove, Baluran National Park, Tourism Suitability Indeks

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