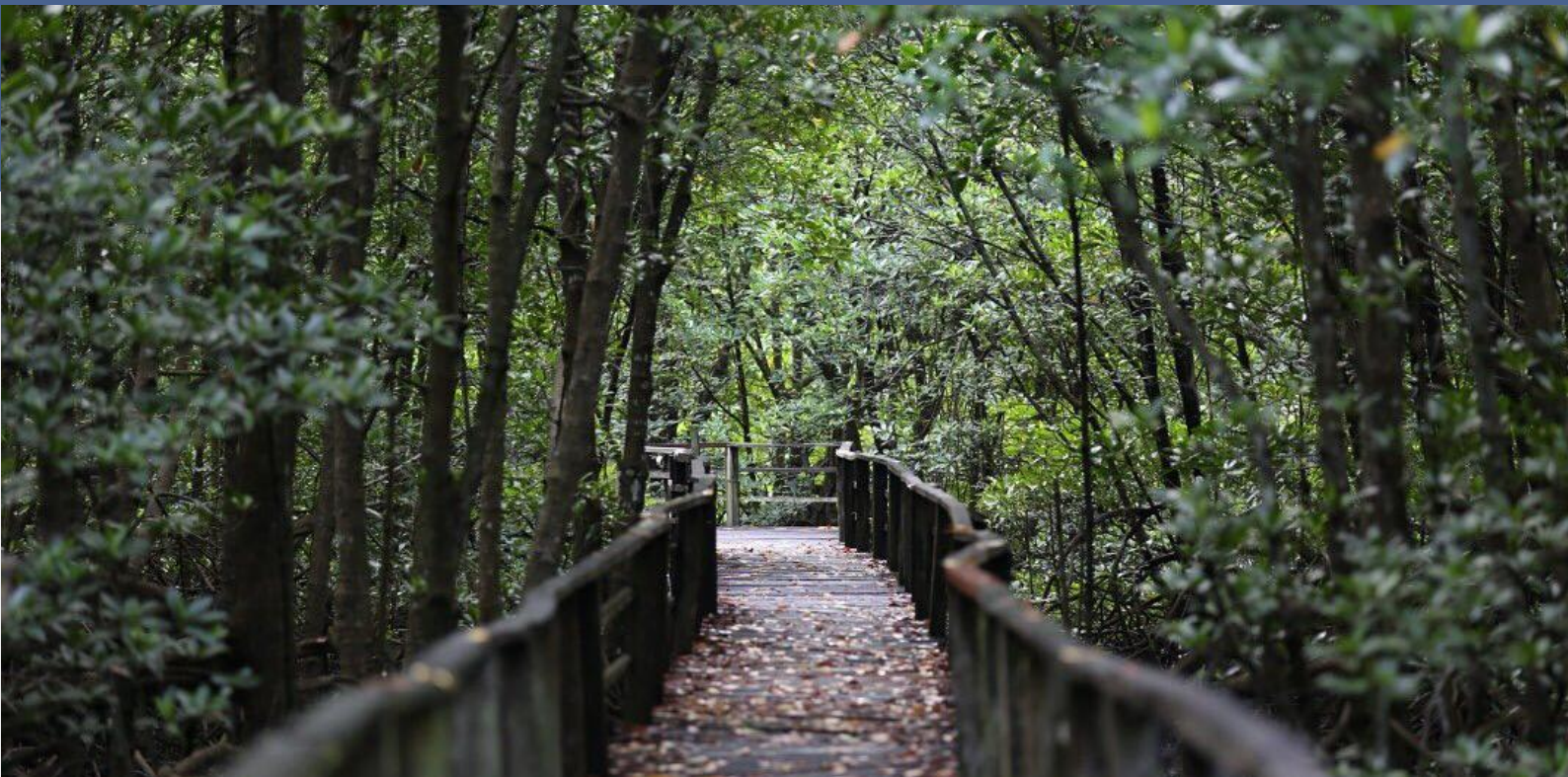


# NEWSLETTER

SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY



## CONTENTS

- 01** *What's Happening*
- 02** *Throwback*
- 03** EEP, EVW & Mangrove Tree Planting Activities
- 04** Guests' Comments & Upcoming Events
- 05** KK Wetland Ramsar Site's Membership, Volunteering & Monthly Activities



## 7TH WETLAND LINK INTERNATIONAL ASIA CONFERENCE

Wetland Link International-Asia (WLI-Asia) is a global network of wetland centers founded in 1991 by Wildfowl and Wetland Trust (WWT) and supporters. The 7th WLI-Asia Conference was organized back-to-back with the 20th Anniversary event of Guandu Nature Park by the RRC-EA in cooperation with the Taipei City Government and Wild Bird Society of Taipei. Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society as one of the members has been invited to participate the event which has been held on 02 - 06 December 2019 and has been given a slot to present a paper during the conference.



**Sabah  
Wetlands  
Conservation  
Society**

A Non-Governmental  
Organization working on  
Conservation of Wetlands in Sabah

Established on  
22 August 2005

## OBJECTIVES

To promote the conservation of wetlands in Sabah and the variety of plants, birds and other kinds of organisms found in them.

To raise public awareness and appreciation of wetlands and public involvement in protecting wetlands.

To manage Rota Kinabalu Wetland (KKW) as a model wetlands centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.



## CELEBRATING 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF GUANDU NATURE PARK & 7TH WETLAND LINK INTERNATIONAL ASIA CONFERENCE

In March 2016, the Ramsar Regional Center – East Asia (RRC-EA) and WLI signed a Memorandum of Understanding to strengthen the network of wetland centers in Asia. Under this agreement, the RRC-EA is representing WLI in Asia by assuming a secretariat role. The WLI-Asia Conference provides a venue for members of WLI-Asia, including managers and stakeholders of wetland centers, to regularly convene, share updated information, and discuss planned activities for the network.

Mohd Nurazmeel Mokhtar, the Conservation & Science Officer of SWCS which has been fully sponsored by the organiser has presented a paper on “Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site & Its CEPA Activities”. Together with him, a total of 4 members of SWCS Management Committee have shown their dedication and support to participate the conference. The Management Committee are the SWCS President, Datuk Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa, Honorary Secretary, Mr. George Ngui, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Mr. Michael Mutu Karsim and Assistant Hon. Treasurer, Mr. Mark Chin has attended the conference at their own expense.

The objectives of the workshop are to share information among wetland centers, facilitate interaction among members through discussion on specific themes and exploring opportunities for future cooperation among members in WLI.



## 2019 ASIAN YOUTH WETLAND ACTIVIST WORKSHOP

2019 Asian Youth Wetland Activist Workshop has successfully ended! And we had a wonderful time learning and exploring the wetlands in Gyeongsangnamdo, South Korea. The workshop aims to nurture our young generation on the importance of wetlands conservation especially in Asian countries. The workshop was held in Changyeong, Gimhae on the 6th to 9th December 2019 which has been participated by various international high school students such as from Japan, Korea, Cambodia as well as Malaysia. This workshop is hosted by the Gyeongsangnamdo Ramsar Environmental Foundation (GREF) and supported by the Gimhae Bongha Village Ecological Park, Bongha Ganggeumwon Memorial Training Center.

With the great help from Teacher Susie Doivit and supports from the School Principal, Tuan Kassim bin Wiro, a total of two passionate students from SMK Taman Tun Fuad have been selected to join us for the workshop. The students, Cik Sarah Adriana Mu and Cik Ulmira Ramli have been assigned to produce videos that capture their experiences during the whole trip with the theme Winter “Dynamic season in wetlands”.





# Industrial Training 2019

Industrial Training is important strategy to expose students to real work life situations and to equip them with the necessary skills that intensify their job acumen. In 2019, Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site welcomed a total of 8 Industrial training students from Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS), Polytechnic Kota Kinabalu and University College Science Foundation.

*From left top: Abner Daryl (Wood Technology- Polytechnic Kota kinabalu), Heiluh Luin (Recreation and Nature park-UMS), Muhamad Zairief Ezzren (International Tropical Forestry-UMS), Lim Li Hung (Wood Technology- Polytechnic Kota Kinabalu)*

*From left bottom: Nur Ain Batrisya (Wood Technolgy- Polytechnic Kota Kinabalu), Cheristina Punga (Sustainable Resource Management and Conservation-UCSF), Grace Octavia Albert (International Tropical Forestry-UMS)*  
*Not in the Picture: Adriono Theodine (Sustainable Resource Management and Conservation-UCSF)*

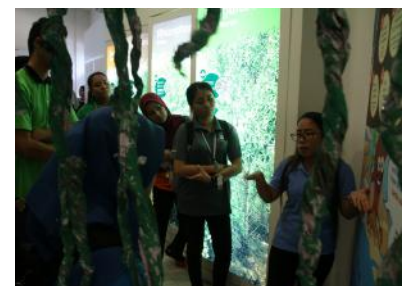


Along with my six-month internship period at KKWRS I gained a lot of experiences in which I am exposed to environmental education and also about the wetlands ecosystem. Besides that, I was thankful where I have an opportunity to enhance my communication skills and ability to educate people about the environment especially wetlands.

Grace Octavia Albert

"Over the past few months, I feel like I have gained so much experience and real-world wisdom. I feel that now I have a good idea on what it is like to work closely with the public on a day-to-day basis. I am so grateful for this experience."

Abner Daryl



# Compilation of snippets : What Are Environmental News Happened In December

## New ice river detected at Arctic glacier adds to rising seas

Geologists, examining the desolate Vavilov ice cap on the northern fringe of Siberia in the Arctic Circle, have for the first time observed rapid ice loss from an improbable new river of ice, according to new research in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters*. Having shed nearly 11% of its mass -- or 9.5 billion tons of ice since 2013, it may become a more-permanent, impactful ice stream, researchers say.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/>

## 2019: The year rainforests burned

2019 closed out a “lost decade” for the world’s tropical forests, with surging deforestation from Brazil to the Congo Basin, environmental policy roll-backs, assaults on environmental defenders, abandoned conservation commitments, and fires burning through rainforests on four continents. 2018’s tree cover loss was down nearly 30 percent from its 2016 high, but 2019 may well break that record given the extent of forest fires across the Amazon, Indonesia, and Africa this year.

<https://news.mongabay.com>

## Love triangle complicates efforts to breed Sumatran rhinos

Efforts to breed the critically endangered Sumatran rhino in captivity have faced myriad challenges ranging from mysterious deaths and reproductive health problems to bureaucratic hurdles. Now, a sanctuary in Indonesia that has previously witnessed the birth of two healthy calves is facing a new, unexpected obstacle: relationship problems. One pair of rhinos, Andalas and Ratu, have successfully produced two calves. But after keepers attempted to mate Andalas with a second female, his previous mate now rejects him.

<https://news.mongabay.com>

## Whitetip sharks declared critically endangered, but gain no protections in Pacific

The oceanic whitetip shark was reclassified as “critically endangered” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), citing “steep population declines” in all oceans. That represents two big steps toward extinction from the shark’s previous classification as “vulnerable,” which it had held since 2006. However, that wasn’t enough to convince countries that fish for tuna in the western and central Pacific Ocean to step up protections for the species in that region, where scientists predict the sharks will disappear if current management practices don’t change.

<https://news.mongabay.com>

## Another Borneo pygmy elephant found dead, likely due to poisoning

Poisoning is suspected to be the cause of death of an adult female Borneo pygmy elephant at a settlement on Sabah's east coast as conservationists continue to grapple with the deaths of the endangered animal. Sources said that the elephant was likely to have consumed toxic substances before it was found dead in the area of Kampung Perpaduan Skim Bagahak at around 6.30am on December 9 2019.

<https://www.thestar.com.my/>

## Malaysia to let RSPO publish oil palm concession maps

The Malaysian government has decided to allow the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) to publish concession maps for Peninsular Malaysia and Sarawak of its members in a bid to boost transparency in the sector. The RSPO has described the move as a “milestone” and it could leave neighboring Indonesia — currently the world’s largest palm oil producer and exporter — further behind in the pursuit of transparency in the palm oil sector.

<https://news.mongabay.com>



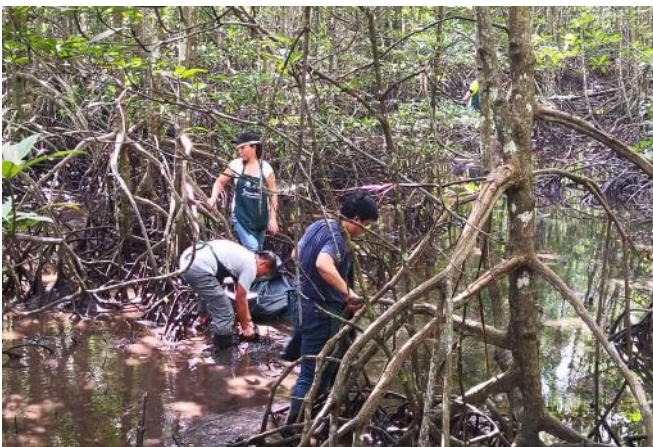


*3rd December 2019. Environmental Education Programme with Young Explorer.*



*5th December 2019. Environmental Education Programme Kinderkaizen Putatan.*





*13th December 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with Sabah International Convention Centre.*



*18th December 2019. Environmental Education Programme with MRS JSP Permai.*



*19th December 2019. Junior Wetland Discovery*



## Guests' comments



beautiful forest! Thank You  
- Robert Dare & wife UK

## Upcoming Events

### Environmental Education Programme

- Keisei High School Japan
- Osaka Nogei High School

### Other

- Junior Wetlands Discovery

Join us!

## Junior Wetland Discovery

Topic:  
Mangrove Marine

February

Date : 15th February 2020  
Venue : Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site  
Time : 9:00 am - 1:30 pm  
Age : 7 - 12 years old



**Activities**

- Interpretative Walk
- Exploring Mangrove Marine Animals
- Water Quality Experiment
- Environment Games

Contact us for more details

+6088-246955

swcs@sabahwetlands.org

Register Now!



## VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

01

### Volunteering is good for your heart

Volunteering for KK Wetland Ramsar Site can be a great fun! If you have passion for the environment or just want to gain more outdoor experiences, this is the appropriate channel. Do not miss the chance! Sign up to be a volunteer now or contact us for more information.

## 03 membership

### Benefits of being our member

- As a member, you will be able to participate in members' events and enjoy free entry to Kota Kinabalu Wetlands Ramsar Site
- Eligible for 50% discount for binoculars rental\*.
- Most importantly, you know you are helping this ecosystem to survive and provide essential services to it.

02

### Monthly Bird Monitoring



Join our monthly birding activity on every 15th-17th day of the month

FOR  
MORE  
INFOHow to  
**REGISTER**

Call us at  
088-246955  
or drop us an email at  
[swcs@sabahwetlands.org](mailto:swcs@sabahwetlands.org)

04

## DONATION



Join the forces with us and help save our Wetlands by giving donation to Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society.

Bank Transfer to;  
SWCS Account No: 392050779101  
(HSBC)

support us by joining our programmes

## 1. Environmental Education Programme

- KK Wetlands Mangrove Experience Programme
- Mangrove Conservation Experience Programme
- Handcrafting from Mangrove

## 2 Environmental Voluntary Work

- Nursery Work
- Mangrove Clean-Up

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