

NEWSLETTER

SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY



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WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2019

Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society (SWCS) celebrated World Wetlands Day 2019 on the 23rd February 2019 at Kota Kinabalu Wetlands Ramsar Site. The ceremony was graced by our very own Datuk Haji Zainie Abdul Aucasa, SWCS President. World Wetlands Day occurs annually on February 2, marking the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on February 2, 1971.

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 Kota Kinabalu Wetlands (KKW) as a model wetlands centre for the purpose of conservation, education, recreation, tourism and research.



Wetlands and Climate Change is the theme for WWD 2019. This year SWCS invited tertiary students from three different institutions (Asian Metropolitan College Kota Kinabalu, University College Sabah Foundation and Cosmopoint College Kota Kinabalu) to enliven the ceremony.



Science Fair and Exhibition was the main activity during the event. Participants and visitors have been the opportunity to do the experiment relating to the atmosphere, climate change and green house effect. There were three experimental stations; station one to test the albedo effect (the amount of radiation), station two to test the green house effect and station three to test the amount of carbon dioxide. Exhibition station was particularly to explain the mangrove forest and climate change effect. World Wetlands Day 2018 was made possible by the generous sponsorship from REMAJAYA SDN. BHD. RRC-EA and DBKK.

Congratulations to the winner of photo contest.

Teen Category

1. Irfan Harraz bin Hasnul Hanis
2. Irdina Hannah Binti Hasnul Hanis
3. Yong Zi Sheng

Youth Category

1. Nahiyan Al Azad
2. Soon Yung Wang
3. Agnes Soimin





Save Our Coral

The coral reef is the most diverse marine ecosystem on earth that are providing a range of valuable ecosystem services to people. Do you know? the coral reef provides jobs, food and coastal protection to over 100 million people in South East Asia. But sadly, most of the coral reef face many threats, especially from human activities.



Human activities that destroyed coral reefs such as fish bombing, over fishing, coastal development and pollution. Fish bombing does not only kill the fish but also destroy the coral reef in the surrounding habitat. Fish bombing is a form of destructive fishing that is illegal in Malaysia.



Destruction made by fish bombing
Credit: Carbonbrief.org

Climate change also affects the life of the coral reef. Corals cannot survive if the water temperature is too high. Global warming has already led to increased levels of coral bleaching, and this is predicted to increase in frequency and severity in the coming decades.

How coral bleached?

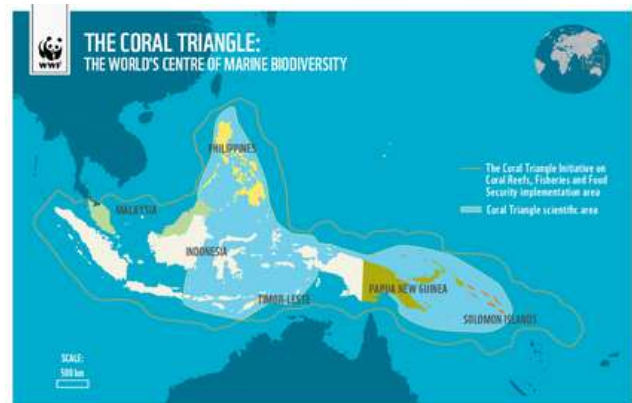


The coral Bleaching

Credit: <https://www.theborneopost.com>

Warmer water temperatures can result in coral bleaching. When water is too warm, corals will expel the algae (zooxanthellae) living in their tissues causing the coral to turn completely white. This is called coral bleaching. When a coral bleaches, it is not dead. Corals can survive a bleaching event, but they are under more stress and are subject to mortality.

Coral Triangle Initiative



Credit: <https://www.weforum.org>

The Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF) is a multilateral partnership of six countries formed in 2007 to address the urgent threats facing the coastal and marine resources of one of the most biologically diverse and ecologically rich regions on earth. The three objectives are to conserve biodiversity, to ensure sustainable development and To alleviate poverty in the proposed park.

Article references: https://wwf.panda.org/our_work/oceans/coasts/coral_reefs/coral_threats/
https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/coral_bleach.html
<http://www.sabahparks.org.my/index.php/discover-us/coral-triangle-initiative>

Climate Change

Climate change is also known as global warming, where the Earth temperature rises each year. Over time, the global averaged temperature shows that more areas are warming than cooling, since 1901, the planet's surface has warmed 0.7 to 0.9 degree Celsius ($^{\circ}\text{C}$) by a century but since 1975 the rate of warming has nearly doubled (1.5°C to 1.8°C) per century. By the year 2020, the global surface temperature will be warmer than the average temperature of years 1986-2005.



Since the global temperature would increase each year then what causes the rise of temperature and what causes the temperature to rise double than the usual rate. Climate change is caused by the greenhouse effect which is caused by the release of the greenhouse gases. These gases are accumulated below the ozone layer and trapped the heat from the Sun rays, which cause the Earth surfaces to warm up. The five greenhouse gases are carbon dioxide, methane, chlorofluorocarbon, low-level ozone and nitrous oxide. The release of these greenhouse gases can be from both natural and anthropogenic causes.

The anthropogenic cause of climate change is by the increase of deforestation that is used to open new agricultural land or settlement area. Natural causes of climate change not only by the release of greenhouse gases but also from the sunspot and solar cycle, as sunspot increase global temperature by restricting the solar plasma, from the impacts of meteorites which put an enormous amount of dust and smoke to the atmosphere that block the solar radiation.



Storm and flood affect human life



The Polar Bear lost his habitat due to melted ice



Drought will effect human and other living things



One of the impacts of global warming on the Earth is rising of sea level. As the Earth surface warms up because of trapped heat due to greenhouse effects by greenhouse gases, the temperature in the Arctic also increases which lead to the melting of glaciers which increase the amount of water in the ocean. Due to the global temperature increase, it can cause drought as less rainfall per year can occur to change in the climate and weather. Drought can affect habitat and ecology system. The impact of climate change is not only caused by the loss of habitat but also from the loss of biodiversity, species extinction and force species to migrate. Besides the loss of habitat in the coastal, there also a loss in habitat in other parts of forest due to the forest fire that cause the fragmented forest to be formed. The disease also increases as there is an increase of pathogens, such as mosquito that bring disease like malaria and dengue. Drought and floods can cause destruction plantation and crops which can lead to lacks food sources.



There is a hope to save our planet

Since the anthropogenic cause of climate is by humans, we can also help in reducing the effects of climate change. One of the ways is by reducing the carbon footprint or carbon use, spread the awareness of climate change, conserve water, save the usage of papers, sort and recycle your rubbish, avoid using plastic bags during shopping and bring a reusable shopping bag, use energy efficient appliances and save energy at home. Besides that, the government can also put efforts in reduces the effect of climate change by protecting and restoring the key ecosystem, promote green energy and technology. Combat short-lived climate pollutants, bet on adaptation no just mitigation and support small agricultural producers.

Article references:

<https://www.edf.org/climate/how-climate-change-plunders-planet>

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/effects-of-climate-change>

<https://www.climate.gov/news-features/understanding-climate/climate-change-global-temperature>



12th February 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with students from AMC College Kota Kinabalu.



15th February 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with KLCC Urus Harta Kuala Lumpur.



17th February 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with AEON Credit Kota Kinabalu.



20th February 2019. Environmental Education Programme with students from Jesselton International School.



26th February 2019. Environmental Voluntary Work with students from SMK Bandaraya Kota Kinabalu



27th February 2019. Environmental Education Programme with students from SMK Taman Tun Fuad Kota Kinabalu

Guests' comments



It was a very peaceful, relaxing and exciting experience.

- Gisela de Bruyin from Spain



Good view and experience.

-Timothy Fletcher from Canada



Very Good!

- Jebrono John from Malaysia

Upcoming Events

MARCH

Environmental Education Programme

- Jesselton International School

Environmental Voluntary Work

- Exotic Borneo
- Rotarect Club UMS



Mangrove Tree Planting

- SMI Holiday
- ATI College



Outreach

- Universiti Malaysia Sabah

Other

- RRCEA - Almacrest
- RRCEA - Cosmopoint

CALLING NOTICE

Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society

14th Annual General Meeting

Saturday 30th March 2019, 10:00 am

Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site

SWCS will hold its AGM on Saturday 30th March 2019 at KK Wetland Ramsar Site.

For more Information, please contact 088-246955 (Rita Ignatius)

**George Ngui
Acting Honorary Secretary
SWCS**

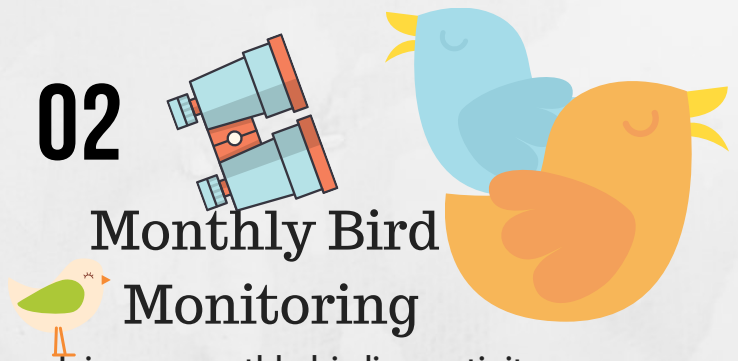
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Volunteering is good for your heart

Volunteering for KK Wetlands 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.

02

Monthly Bird Monitoring



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

FOR MORE INFO



Call us at 088-246955 or drop us an email at swcs@sabahwetlands.org

membership

Benefits of being our member

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- 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.

support us by joining our programmes

1. Environmental Education Programme

- i. KK Wetlands Mangrove Experience Programme
- ii. Mangrove Conservation Experience Programme
- iii. Handcrafting from Mangrove

CONTRIBUTORS

Mohamad Nazri Ali
Recheal Jane Ronnie

2. Environmental Voluntary Work

- i. Nursery Work
- ii. Mangrove Clean-Up

COMPILED BY

Mohamad Nazri Ali

EDITOR

Rita Ignatius

