

NEWSLETTER

SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY



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SWCS WORLD WETLANDS DAY 2018

Sabah Wetlands Conservation Society celebrated World Wetlands Day 2018 on 10th of March 2018. The ceremony was held at Kota Kinabalu Wetlands Ramsar Site and was officiated by Yang Mulia Tunku Khalkausar binti Fathahi, Director, Department of Environment Sabah. The ceremony was enlivened with the presence of other VIPs such as SWCS President Datuk Hj Zainie Abdul Aucasa and Sabah Parks Board of Trustees Chairman YM Dato Seri Dr Tengku Zainal Adlin bin Tengku Mahamood, secondary school students, teachers and model wetlands participants. World Wetlands Day is celebrated every year on 2nd February. This day marks the date of the adoption of the Convention on Wetlands on 2nd February 1971, in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the shores of the Caspian Sea.

SABAH WETLANDS CONSERVATION SOCIETY

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

Established on 22 August 2005

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.

OBJECTIVES

Wetlands For A Sustainable Urban Future



Speech from GOH YM Tunku Khalkausar

This year the theme for World Wetlands Day is "Wetlands For A Sustainable Urban Future" that invites people together to conserve and protect wetland areas around the world. Urban wetlands make cities liveable that improving urban air quality, reducing flooding, replenishing drinking water, filtering waste & improving water quality and promoting human well-being. Kota Kinabalu Wetland is the best example of urban wetlands because it is located strategically at the heart of Kota Kinabalu city.



Launched Ceremony By YM Tunku Khalkausar accompanied by YM Dato Seri Dr Tengku Adlin (Left) and Datuk Hj Zainie (Right)

Spread The Awareness through The Model Wetlands Competition

Eleven teams from nine secondary schools in the district of Kota Kinabalu have joined this competition. The teams were required to design model wetland based on their own creativity combining the wetlands and the city. Eleven wetlands models were presented during the day contrasting the different ideas and concepts. Most importantly, the students have an idea how to protect and conserve wetlands in the developing areas. The GOH and VIPs were impressed by the excellent ideas the participants made in their presentations.

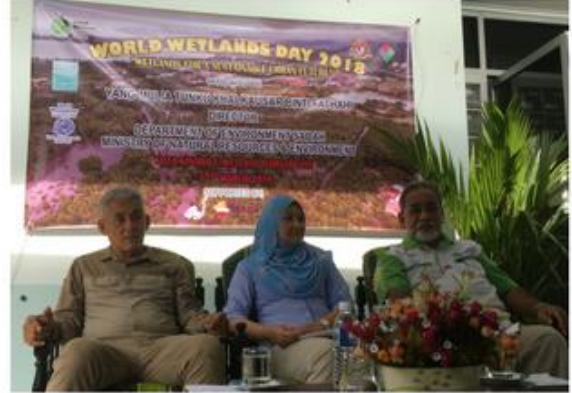
The team Totally Spies from SM St John Tuaran won this competition and received cash price RM500, followed by SM Maktab Sabah (RM300), and SMK Sri Nangka in the 3rd place received a cash price RM200. World Wetlands Day 2018 was made possible by the generous sponsorships from REMAJAYA SDN. BHD, REPSOL OIL & GAS MALAYSIA LIMITED and DBKK.



Students from SM All Saint Presented their Model Wetland



Winner Model Wetlands Competition (From left): 1st Place (SM St John Tauran) 2nd Place (Maktab Sabah) and 3rd place (SMK Sri Nangka)





APPRECIATION CORNER

GRUBBE SECONDARY SCHOOL UMEA, SWEDEN AND SM LA SALLE KOTA KINABALU

Since 2010, Grubbe Secondary School of Umea in Sweden, and SM La Salle Kota Kinabalu collaborated under their unique global environmental partnership. They started supporting us through donation and tree planting in Kota Kinabalu Wetland Ramsar Site Since 2012. This year, under Carbon Off-setting project, Grubbe secondary School donated RM7000 to SWCS. About 500 schoolchildren, aged 13 and 16 earned money by cutting grass, painting walls, and doing odd jobs for their grandparents and other elderly people. Besides that, the students also collected RM1000 by bringing recyclable items to the collection center. Grubbe Secondary School teacher Claes Emteryd said “Mangrove forests are an important part of the world’s ecosystem. This world is big but it is getting smaller. As we live together, what happens in Sabah will impact Sweden and vice versa”.



Swedish students raise RM7,000 for Mangrove conservation in Sabah



By OLIVIA MORIL - March 15, 2018 @ 2:55pm

KOTA KINABALU: About 500 schoolchildren in Sweden have raised RM7,000 for mangrove conservation in Sabah. Grubbe School teacher Claes Emteryd said the schoolchildren, aged between 13 and 16, earned money by cutting grass, painting walls or doing other odd jobs for their grandparents and other elderly people.

RECOMMENDED
Opposition's desperate act
"DAP's willingness to sacrifice begs evidence of it using Dr M"



"Get to know" Ramsar Site Malaysia



Credit: <http://www.johorparcs.gov>

Sungai Pulai is also important to many marine species that depend on mangrove habitats. Fish and juvenile prawns need lower salinity in their early stage. This river provides them with an important habitat due to its low saline content.

About 38 village communities that live inside and outside Sungai Pulai depends on this mangrove area. The local, who consist of Malays, Chinese and Indigenous people wisely used this valued resources, for example, in production of charcoal, aquaculture activities, and eco-tourism.

Ramsar Sites in Johor

In the last edition covered Pulau Kukup Ramsar Site. In this edition, we will cover about Sungai Pulai Ramsar site, Johor. Sungai Pulai is the largest riverine system in Johor, located at the estuary of Sungai Pulai river. Sungai Pulai is 9,126 ha, which is covered by various mangrove vegetation. This area is rich in its mangrove diversity, which consists of 20 species of mangrove plant. Sungai Pulai also contains rich biological fauna comprising 7 amphibians, 12 reptiles, 55 birds, 26 mammals, and 111 fish species.

This mangrove area supports many animals that state in IUCN red-list. The birds that are listed in IUCN red-list are Mangrove Pitta (near threatened) and Mangrove Blue Flycatcher (Least Concern). Two primates were stated as threatened and vulnerable are Long-tailed Macaque and Pig-tailed Macaque. Estuarine Crocodiles were sighted at Sungai Pulai, suggesting that this area has been a nesting ground for this crocodile species. There are one mangrove species that's endemic to Malaysia recorded in Sungai Pulai called *Avicennia lanata*.



Mangrove Pitta

Credit: orientalbirdimages.org



Mangrove Blue Flycatcher

Credit: <http://orientalbirdimages.org>



Credit: <http://www.johorparcs.gov.my>

Article references: <http://www.johorparcs.gov.my>



4th March 2018. Outreach, Petrosains Playsmart.



7th March 2018. Environmental Education Programme with Westwood Secondary School Singapore.



22th March 2018. Technical visit from IEM.



28th February 2018. Environmental Education Programme with Yamanashi Eiwa Highschool Japan

Guests' comments



Valuable experience and nice service. We saw a lot and most beautiful sight was egret.
- Kira & Ibkha Haapala, Denmark



We love this place. Our first time in the mangrove forest.
- Jong Wen & Lu Xia, China



Good service! We saw a dog faced snake. We were enjoyed the scenery of mangrove area.
- Thomas & friend, Canada

Upcoming Events

Environmental Education Programme

- SM St. John Beaufort
- Nakajima Junior Highschool Japan

Environmental Voluntary Work

- SM All Saint Kota Kinabalu

Mangrove Tree Planting

- SM Maktab Sabah
- SM Stella Maris
- SM St. John Tuaran
- SMK Bandaraya
- SMK Datuk Peter Majungkil
- Cosmopoint College KK

Others

- Outreach SMK Tenom

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!

01

Volunteering is good for your heart

Volunteering for KK Wetlands Ramsar Site can be 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

How to
REGISTER

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

membership

Benefits of being our member

03

- 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.

04



Give your old laptop or desktop a new life by donating us!

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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