

READERS OF ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING IN MALAYSIA



■ MARIANA MOHAMED OSMAN ■
■ ALIAS ABDULLAH ■ M. ZAINORA ASMAWI ■



IIUM PRESS

INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA

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CONCEPTUAL AND POSSIBLE APPLYING LIMITS OF ACCEPTABLE CHANGE FRAMEWORK INTO MALAYSIAN NATIONAL PARK: A CASE STUDY OF ENDAU ROMPIN AND MULU

Alias Abdullah¹, Shamzani Affendy² & Chee Hon Loong³

INTRODUCTION

National Park in Malaysia is a booming tourism industry raises obvious questions about the future. Has tourism already surpassed some critical environmental and social thresholds? Is tourism endangering the ecological well-being of the National Park? These are questions about how much change is acceptable as National Park tourism grows. We are looking forward on conceptual and possibility by applying limits of acceptable change (LAC) into our Malaysian National Park. Limits to change are examined by surveying attitudes of tourism stakeholders and tourists toward present and future ecological and social conditions. Whereas tourists and non-tourists generally view present conditions as acceptable in both study areas, continued growth raises red flags in the minds of both those who know the national park and tourists, especially in the more densely developed of the two study areas. Both tourists and non-tourists believed that growth will lead to “change for the worse” in a wide range of environmental and social impact variables.

Meanwhile, we need to consider that growth in National Park tourism would improve employment opportunities and expand the economy. As a tool in pursuit of the elusive target of sustainable tourism, the LAC framework challenges tourism planners and managers to balance tourism benefits against impending environmental and social costs foreseen by all stakeholders. Using LAC framework will also boost up tourism industry in term of number of people visiting and will benefits towards higher country income in tourism industry.

Both National Parks give you a breathtaking experience of some of the world’s most enthralling wonders of nature. The variety of attractions to enjoy and experience includes giant caves, spectacular limestone pinnacles, waterfall and magnificent rain forest with vast number of plant and animal species.

More than a million tourists visiting both national park in a year. For this paper, we are focusing on two areas of Endau Rompin National Park which is located at Kluang and Labis of Johor and Mulu National Park at Miri of Sarawak. For Endau Rompin National Park, which have two entry points, which is Entrance 1 at Kampung Peta, Kahang (map 1) and Entrance 2 at Kampung Selai, Bekok (map 2). The park covers 48.905 hectares. It was

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