

THE RESISTENCE OF KAWE LOCAL COMMUNITY TO THE MANAGEMENT OF MARINE NATURAL RESERVE AREA IN RAJA AMPAT

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Abstract: This article aims to reveal why and how the resistance of Kawe local people to the management of marine nature reserve area (SAP) in Raja Ampat. This study uses qualitative method with ethnography approach. The results of the study shows that the reasons for the resistance to the power carried out in the management of natural marine reserves area (SAP) is due to feeling of the local people in which they do not receive any benefits from the marine conservation. The underlying reason is economic, educational, and the lack of local employment factors that led to the rejection or resistance. The resistance is mobilized by the local community of Kawe by way of rejection, and in the collaboration with the fishermen from outside of Raja Ampat engaging fishing and destructive activities in areas that have been prohibited by the applicable laws and regulations.

Keywords : resistance, local community, kawe, marine natural reserve

INTRODUCTION

The Raja Ampat Islands in the Province of West Papua are known to have high levels of biodiversity and endemism of coastal and marine resources. This indication has been estimated long ago with some research activities in Raja Ampat. The archipelago has at least 1,318 species of reef fish (Allen and Erdmann, 2009) and 533 hard coral species (Turak and Devantier, 2008). In the regional context, the Raja Ampat Islands Marine Sanctuary (SAP) and the surrounding sea are included in the coral triangle and are an important part of coastal and marine biodiversity. The area of the coral triangle is characterized by the presence of 500 or more coral species and is the center of abundance and diversity of corals on earth (Arman, 2009). To ensure long-term sustainability of its resources and benefits, the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries and the Raja Ampat District Government undertake management efforts through the development of the Raja Ampat Marine Conservation Area (KKP).

Currently, there are 2 National Conservation Areas (KKPN) namely Raja Ampat Sanctuary and the surrounding Sea, and SAP Waigeo Islands to the West and the surrounding Sea with an area of 60,000 ha each and 125,000 ha. SAP Status of Raja Ampat Islands and the surrounding Sea and SAP of the Western Islands is relatively new, as its management was handed over by the Ministry of Forestry to the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries in March 2009. The management of SAP Islands of Raja Ampat Islands and SAP of Waigeo Islands to the West will not be able to perform well without the involvement and support of local government (provinces),

communities / business entities utilizing the area (both inside and outside the region) or educational institutions. The problems either directly or indirectly associated with SAP management in Raja Ampat are identified from the results of the study identified that the damage to the Raja Ampat waters ecosystem is caused by the Raja Ampat regional government's development policy which does not consider Raja Ampat's geographical condition as an archipelago; coral reefs die from land clearing and sedimentation road construction; damage to coral reefs due to unsustainable fishing practices; Overfishing by Raja Ampat fishermen and an understanding of the management of coastal and marine resources is low.



Location of Raja Ampat Regency West Papua Province
Source : www.rajaampatmap.com.

Understanding of the management of coastal and marine resources is low especially by local communities that are in and around the conservation area is a major concern in this paper that is the resistance made by local communities, especially the Kawe tribe that is around the national water conservation area (KKPN) marine reserves (SAP) in the West Waigeo District of Raja Ampat District of West Papua on the grounds of not receiving benefits for the presence of the area. The lack of local economic, educational, and employment reasons leads to rejection, resistance. Resistance is mobilized by the local community of Kawe by way of rejection, collaboration with fishermen from outside Raja Ampat to engage in arresting and violation activities in areas that have been prohibited by applicable laws and regulations

DISCUSSION

The Nature Reserve area is a region with certain characteristics, both on land and in waters which has the main function as a preservation area of diversity of plants and animals and its ecosystem which also serves as a living buffer system. The waters of Raja Ampat are known to have unique and high diversity of marine biota, some of which are endemic (Kepmen No. KEP 65 of 2009). Therefore, for the purpose of

conservation of biota and ecosystem, management efforts are made, one of them by setting two areas of Nature Conservation of the Waters (SAP) in Raja Ampat SAP Raja Ampat Islands and the surrounding sea, and SAP Waigeo Islands to the West and the surrounding Sea.

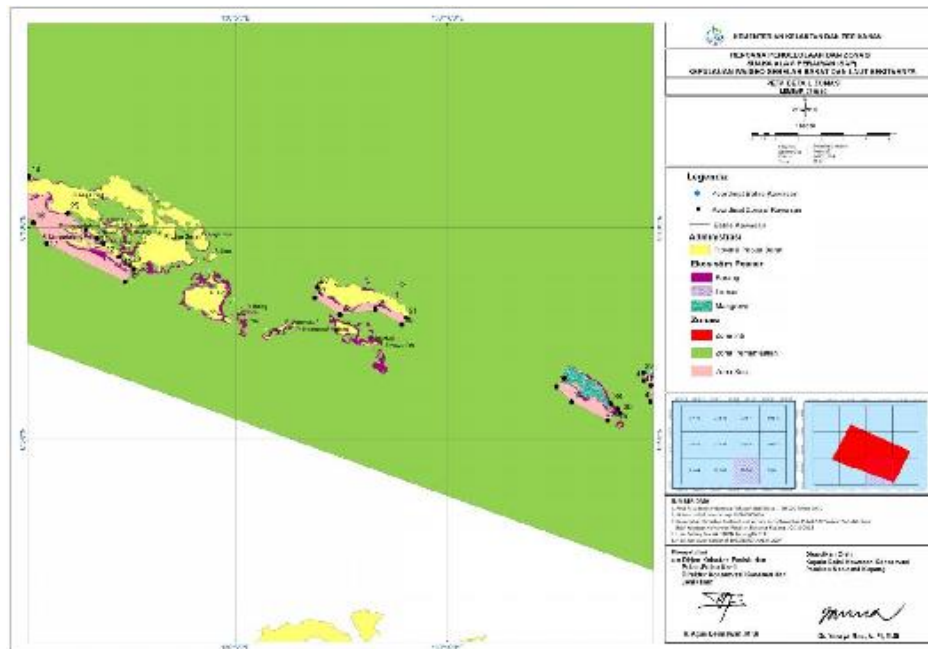


Figure 2.1. SAP Waigeo Islands West and surrounding areas
 Source: Kepmen KP No: 60 / KEPMEN-KP / 2014

The islands in this SAP are empty islands that are uninhabited. However, this area is part of customary rights or tribal / ethnic group Kawe Raja Ampat who live in two villages far beyond this SAP Selpele Village and Kampung Salio in West Waigeo District. In both villages there are several clans that have petuanan ranging from Uranie Island to Piai Island.

Generally the livelihoods of the people in the villages around SAP Waigeo Islands West is almost fishermen. Gardening byproduct or collecting forest products around the village (Koentjaraningrat, 2009). Potential fisheries utilized by fishermen around SAP Waigeo Islands West are stones (old brother), bubara (kuwe), cangkalang, gutila (lencam). Types of fishing gear used to catch fish include: fishing rods, basic fishing rods, cigi, gill nets and speargun. Some families also have homestays to earn other income from the tourism sector.

Underlying the results of research conducted on the national watershed conservation area (SAP) in Raja Ampat, especially the response of indigenous peoples in the Salio and Selpele villages of West Waigeo District, there is a very varied community response about the presence of marine or marine conservation areas in their area, there is a good understanding of the benefits of conservation for the survival of communities and

ecosystems, some are unaware even some who understand but do not care and assume that there is no beneficial benefit for them with the existence of conservation areas.

Conservation areas are very detrimental to indigenous peoples as claimed by customary leaders and clan leaders in Salio and Selpele villages who are customary to have full authority over the area. Local people argue that economically, local people, especially the two villages, do not benefit better when they are involved in conservation efforts and protection of watersheds because conservation agencies do not provide support and assistance in meeting the needs of their communities. To meet the needs of daily living they have to work harder to catch fish in areas that used to be used, now it is not allowed because the water area has become a closed area and prohibited for local fishermen and outside fishermen. On the educational aspect, the local community of Kawe assumes that there is no assistance in the form of scholarships or education assistance for their children who are studying outside the village. Whereas to get the cost of education enough they have to catch fish in their territorial waters freely but it turns out the presence of conservation areas of marine nature reserves (SAP) causing their fishing area as a traditional fisherman farther and requires a cost for fuel and travel time is longer. The very limited absorption of local labor is also the reason for the rejection by the status of laborers and daily freelance and is then questioned by the Kawe tribe community as it turns out that the labor used as officers and employees at the monitoring and surveillance stations of the conservation area is the work force from outside Raja Ampat.

The seizure and acknowledgment of land and island ownership such as Wayag Island between Salio people and Salpele people is a very prominent potential today. Another conflict is between Kawe people and Betew tribe where mutual respect and respect for the border and ownership of the islands potential for tourism to be seized between the two tribes is also happening until now will be a challenge for the manager of the area in an effort to involve the community against various program implemented in the effort to protect and conserve the national watershed conservation area (KKPN) of Nature Conservation (SAP) in Raja Ampat, West Papua.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above problems and discussion it is concluded that:

1. Protection and conservation of biodiversity of Raja Ampat waters from the threat of destruction and destruction is the reason for the establishment of marine conservation area of marine waters (SAP) in Raja Ampat, West Papua
2. The active participation of local communities inside and around the waters of conservation areas is key to successful protection and conservation efforts with local government support.
3. The benefits of establishing a conservation area of the watershed watershed (SAP) in Raja Ampat to local communities should be a priority and would be very wise and wise if the local people, especially the Kawe tribe, benefit more from the area, instead of causing horizontal resistance and conflict among local communities.

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