



Terumbu

www.dmpm.nre.gov.my

Department of Marine Park Malaysia

**Rise of
a new department**

Marine Park Malaysia

First Edition

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COVER

Pterois volitans (Lionfish)

Coming from the family of Pteroinae of the Scorpionfish, lionfish are mostly found in the Indo-Pacific. Lionfish are boldly colored, although their striped pattern appears less conspicuous amongst coral reefs. The dorsal fins are divided into separate long rays or spines, and the pectoral fins are enormous and sometimes also divided. Lionfishes live on the sea bed and release their spawn in open water. They are favourites to divers even though known for its venomous fins. Common lionfish generally reaches the size of 30-35 cm, larger ones up to 50cm; while smaller species are typically the size of a tennis ball, not including fins.

Photo credit: ReefCheck Malaysia

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WHAT IS...
**CROWN-OF-THORNS
STARFISH**



Foreword



Welcome to the very first edition of TERUMBU, a bi-annual bulletin produced by the Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM).

As I was reading through the draft of this publication, I must say that for a young department like ours, there are much more to these articles that needed to be told. TERUMBU focuses on developments, plans and achievements of DMPM, whilst reporting on current issues in the marine protected areas in Malaysia.

We will work towards educating and updating our partners, users of marine parks as well as staff members on the development and our journey in achieving our mission. This will not only be done through the bulletin, but also our new website, mass media, brochures, educational materials, awareness programmes, exhibitions and various other means of communication channels.

Conserving marine biodiversity in our country or anywhere else in the world cannot be done alone. Through advocacy, we work with a wide range of stakeholders including local communities and media partners to raise awareness to strive towards achieving sustainable island development, and it is my personal ambition to achieve more than what we are today.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my colleagues as well as partners in various organisations and agencies who have helped us along our ways to achieve excellence thus far.

The fact that you are reading this bulletin shows that you care. Please share with us any comments and observations that you may have. I thank you in advance and please enjoy our first edition.

Haji Abd Jamal Bin Mydin

Director General

Department of Marine Park Malaysia

Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment

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Terumbu is distributed free of charge. We welcome feedback and ideas to improve its scope of reporting and contents. Please send your comments to:

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FIRST EDITION

CONGRATULATIONS DMPM... on the very first edition of Marine Park bulletin. This bi-annual publication aims to inform readers and users of marine parks about DMPM's mission, objectives, achievements and future plans. It covers all 6 Divisions, 4 States and Federal Territory of Labuan offices of the Department. In no specific order, they are (1) Development Division, (2) Enforcement and Licensing Division, (3) Education and Interpretation Division, (4) Planning and Management of Marine Park Division, (5) Research and Resource Inventory Division, (6) Management Services Division, (7) State of Pahang Marine Park Office, (8) State of Terengganu Marine Park Office, (9) State of Johor Marine Park Office, (10) State of Kedah Marine Park Office and (11) Federal Territory of Labuan Office.

There are indeed more than meets the eye in DMPM. Definitely more for the eyes to see, the mind to learn, and much more to be done. Or rather, much more needs to be done about the seas, more so on Marine Parks in Malaysia. Although many are already aware of the importance of coral reefs, this bulletin aims to create awareness among the public, especially visitors and users of Marine Parks in Malaysia, to be gentle to the marine organisms and mindful of their responsibilities to the environment.

The present team of staff is working tirelessly to ensure that the Department's objectives are achieved and the plans are carried out. Together with UNDP's Project team in its Headquarters in Putrajaya, it means more effective planning in ensuring conservation of marine biodiversity in this country. The Project title 'Conserving Marine Biodiversity Through Enhanced Marine Park Management and Inclusive Sustainable Island Development' explains it all.



Yes, and a new website too!

DMPM can now be viewed via the World Wide Web at www.dmpm.nre.gov.my. This website is designed to be informative and interactive. Comments and suggestions can be sent to the ICT Officer Ms. Saliah Bt Mohd Shafari, email: saliah@nre.gov.my.





Official Website

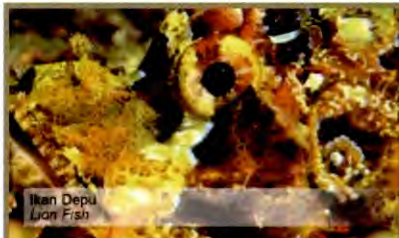
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Ikan Depu
Lion Fish



Karang berbentuk folios
Folios coral



Aktiviti selaman
Diving activity

Bahasa Melayu | English

Search

Photo Gallery



Educational

Course & Training

- Workshop on Project Impact Research
- Workshop on Bajet Preparation II (DMPM)
- File Disposal Manual Development Workshop

[More »](#)

Calendar Activities

- Sea Fiesta 2008

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Special Project

- GOM-UNDP/GEF
- Inception Workshop
- Project Brief
- IYOR 2008
- Malaysia IYOR 2008

Hyperlink

- Government agencies under Ministry of NRE
- International organisation
- Local Newspaper
- Non-governmental organisation
- Others related government website
- Others related system data

[More »](#)

Intranet | Webmail



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Activity

GO

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Last Updated : 29/08/2008

About MARINE PARK Malaysia

The Marine Parks in Malaysia are of world class status and has drawn many tourists to the depth of the marine life. Malaysia's first protected marine park, the Terengganu Marine Park, located north of Kuala Terengganu is an archipelago that contains nine islands.

[View more](#)

- Corals are living thing!
- Corals are extremely sensitive to their surroundings
- Coral reefs and their vicinity supply over 50% of our seafood
- Coral reefs are source of many life saving discoveries
- The destruction of coral reefs continues

[View more](#)

CORAL etiquette

Whether you swim, snorkel, scuba, or freedive; Corals are colonies of very small animals which may take hundreds of years to form the structures visible today.



Simply touching corals to see what they feel like can cause the death of an entire colony. Oils from your skin can disturb the delicate mucous membranes which protect the animals from disease. If feeding coral is startled, it retracts for protection and in doing so is unable to feed.

Don't stand on coral
Anchoring
Look, but PLEASE don't touch!
Avoid harassing reef life
Avoid littering

[View more](#)

DO's & DON't

Permitted Activities

- Scuba Diving.
- Snorkeling.
- Underwater Photography.
- Swimming.
- Sailing or Kayaking.
- Fish Feeding.
- Climbing and jungle tracking.

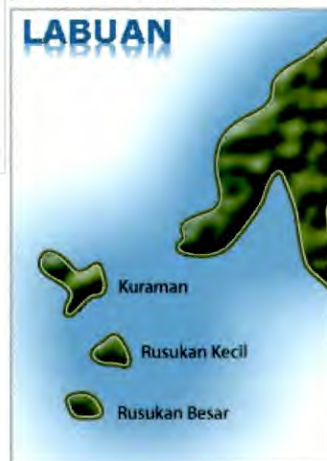


Prohibited Activities

- Fishing or killing fish.
- Usage of spear gun or sling fishing.
- Collecting of sand or rubble.
- Collect or capture any marine resources whether dead or alive.
- Stepping on or breaking off the corals.
- Anchoring on the reefs.
- Polluting and littering.
- Building any structure in the water.

ANNOUNCEMENT

- TIOMAN OUR HERITAGE PROGRAMME & COMMUNITY'S DAY NRE/JTLM**
In conjunction with the IYOR 2008, JTLM & Rakan Park Tioman has taken the initiative to support the government's effort in conserving marine... [\(more\)](#)
- Conference on Biodiversity and National Development**
The Academy of Science Malaysia and WWF Malaysia will co-organise a... [\(more\)](#)



DID You Know?

That although turtles live in the sea, they return to the shore from which they were born and lay eggs and need to come to the surface to breathe air every 45 minutes or so?

Today's vote

Your Evaluation for our website?

- ☐ Very Satisfied
- ☐ Satisfied
- ☐ Less Satisfied

[Vote](#)

Total votes: 114

[View results](#)

022872

Rise of a new department

Department of Marine Park Malaysia



New logo of DMPM

Malaysia is one of the 12 Mega Biological Diverse Countries in the World. Approximately 80% of the World's coral species dwells in our Malaysian sea floor and more than 4,000 species of marine fishes inhabit our spectacular marine environment. This is not surprising as Malaysia lies within the Indo-Malayan Triangle – an area reputedly rich and diverse in its marine flora and fauna. Our tropical reefs share a variety of species equal to the tropical rainforest, but overall, the seas have about twice the number of phyla¹ as compared to land. As the majority of marine phyla occur in the coastal zone, this this zone could be considered the most biologically diverse area in the world and by extension, the most in of protection.

Yet throughout the world our sea is suffering from degradation. Marine resources have been subjected to tremendous pressure due to increasing human population. Ignorance and irresponsible human behaviors have led to unchecked and uncontrolled pollution, over-exploitation, conflicting uses of resources and destruction of vital natural habitats. As such, proactive management of our marine environment and its biodiversity is a high priority.

Malaysia has recognized the importance of Marine Protected Areas (MPA) to control and minimize adverse impacts on the marine environment. This leads to the idea of an area especially dedicated to the protection of biological diversity and resources, that was legally managed since 1983. Up till February 2008, 42 islands (refer to map) and their surrounding waters (an area of the sea about two nautical miles from the shore) in Malaysia have been gazetted as Marine Parks (MP) to ensure the protection of the marine heritage and resources.

Marine Parks are being protected by the newly established Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM) or Jabatan Taman

Laut Malaysia (JTLM) under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE). DMPM was previously a small section under the Ministry and was officially upgraded to a department status on **16th July 2007**. This new Department holds a greater responsibility, not just managing and conserving all 42 Marine Park islands in Malaysia but also the leading federal agency in protecting marine biodiversity and resources in Malaysia.

Malaysia's marine parks bear a symbiotic relationship to coral reefs, and to that layman, the names 'Marine Park' and 'coral reef' are now synonymous with each other. This is partly true, considering the extensive inhabitants with wonderful arrays of brilliantly colored coral gardens in the Marine Parks. However, the principal goal of establishing Marine Parks in the country is to protect, conserve and manage in perpetuity representative marine ecosystems, particularly coral reefs and their associated flora and fauna, so that they remain undamaged for future generation. Other goals are to promote scientific research and to inculcate public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of our marine heritage.

We are now embarking to a more challenging task in managing the Marine Park with the ever increasing of human demands and the depletion of marine ecosystems around the world. In moving forward with the current and future issues, DMPM is strengthening its manpower and legislation set up. A new Marine Park Act has been formulated; it will be tabled and hopefully approved. In this new law, a more comprehensive set of regulations can be enacted, and careful control can be exercised on the exploitation of Marine Parks. Park management will also be emphasized, giving Marine Park more power to control visitors' activities.

The Newly Gazetted Marine Park Islands

Pulau Yu Besar

- Location: Off Terengganu waters (near Pulau Redang Archipelago)
- Date Gazetted: February 2008
- Area: 0.13 km²

Pulau Yu Kecil

- Location: Off Terengganu waters (near Pulau Redang Archipelago)
- Date Gazetted: February 2008
- Area: 0.07 km²



¹ Phyla: the plural of the level of classification of living things below kingdom and above class. The more phyla in a community the more diverse the community is. (Ray, G.C., 1991. Coastal-zone biodiversity patterns. *Bioscience*, 41(7): 490-498.

Marine Parks of Malaysia



Did you know?

Malaysian water covers a total of 614,000km², and only 2,300 km² are protected as Marine Parks. That would be only 0.37% of our total maritime waters.

Malaysia has a total of 882 islands. 42 islands are gazetted as Marine Parks, 2 islands in Sarawak gazetted as Fisheries Prohibited Areas and 11 islands in Sabah gazetted as State Parks. That makes it a total of only 55 protected islands in Malaysia (6.2% of total islands in Malaysia).



Message from the NPD

It gives me great pleasure to pen a few lines in the first edition of Terumbu - DMPM's very own bulletin. The timing of the Project inception and establishment of DMPM came in aptly for all its staff members and the Project Management Unit to outline and merge their management and operational plans. This would definitely help both working groups to achieve their mission and goals through a common track.

The UNDP Marine Park Project was initiated in 2002, with experts from various marine-related backgrounds who shared their ideas to produce the Project Document, with the Goal 'To ensure the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in Malaysia and sustainable island development'. The Inception Report was also published after the completion of the Inception Workshop in Tioman Island. It was reviewed by Dr. Alexander Dawson Shepherd, the Project's International Chief Technical Advisor (ICTA) who also designed the Project Logical Framework. With three Project Sites so different in many aspects – economically, socially and governance, a lot has to be done by the PMU to achieve the set goal.

I must say that this project is very unique. Even though many said that it is complex, it has a coherent framework. The 7 Project Outcomes (Planning, Policy, Local Community, Tourism, Enforcement, Awareness and Advocacy) in the Logical Frame basically sum the deliverables of the Project. A few activities have already been done at ground level where Project Officers visited the Sites and other marine parks, met the local people, tourism operators, local authorities, etc. to discuss possible collaborations, in the process of meeting some of the Outcomes.

However, during the recent NSC meeting, all the committee members have mutually agreed that the Project is for the benefit of the people in the islands, and not to any one individual. Even though one of the main outcome would be the fabrication of DMPM's master management plan, it will be done through consultative management with its stakeholders. I personally believe that ultimately, this Project would bring about benefits to the future generations.

I have witnessed many staff members, both DMPM and PMU who have been working very hard to accomplish what is best for the people of the islands, their environments, as well as for the betterment of DMPM. I would like to take this opportunity to record my heartfelt thanks for all their hard work; and to Tn. Hj. Abd. Jamal, DMPM's very first Director General, for his continuous support and excellent leadership.

Ab Rahim Gor Yaman

National Project Director
UNDP Marine Park Project

UNDP Marine Park Project

Conserving Marine Biodiversity through Enhanced Marine Park Management and Inclusive Sustainable Island Development

The UNDP Marine Park Project entitled 'Conserving Marine Biodiversity through Enhanced Marine Park Management and Inclusive Sustainable Island Development' is to assist the agencies of the Government of Malaysia to integrate development planning with effective conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity, resources and ecosystems within Malaysia's marine parks.

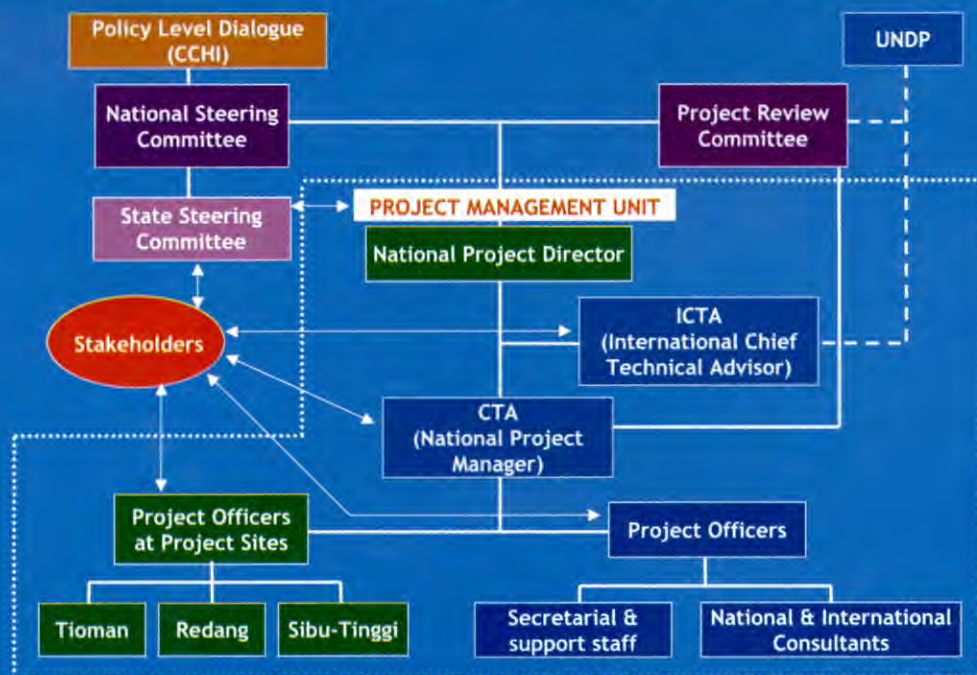
The Department of Marine Park Malaysia will be the implementing agency for this project that builds upon significant investments and proposals by the Malaysian Federal and State authorities, to ensure improved marine resource conservation and management in the three Malaysian east coast island groups of Redang, Tioman and Sibutu-Tinggi. These locations will be used as pilot sites where its management plan model and activities could be replicated to other marine park areas in Malaysia.

Started in March 2007, the project's Goal is to 'Ensure the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biodiversity and Sustainable Island Development in Malaysia'. This 5-year project targets 164,534.2 hectares of Malaysian sea, under improved management, for the conservation of marine biodiversity.

The Project Inception Report that contains the logical framework can be downloaded from www.dmpm.nre.gov.my or www.undp.org.my



PROJECT ORGANIZATION





The inaugural Pahang, Terengganu and Johor SSC meetings took place on 14th March, 28th April 2008 and 28th May 2008 respectively. All the State Steering Committee members were briefed about the project and its implications to the states.

The SSCs accepted the project, its logical framework and agreed to present it to their respective State Executive Councils for endorsement.

THE FIRST STATE STEERING COMMITTEE (SSC) MEETINGS



INCEPTION REPORT

The Inception Report is finally printed and the first copy was presented to Y.Bhg. Dato Zol Azha Bin Yusuf, Deputy Secretary General 1 of NRE during the 2nd National Steering Committee meeting on 1 Dec 2008.

The report can be downloaded via www.dmpm.nre.gov.my



“Rainforest to Reef”

The ‘Rainforest to Reef Environmental Education’ programme was delivered successfully to seven Primary Schools at all the project sites, including one non-project site in Terengganu i.e. Sek. Keb. Pulau Perhentian.

The participating schools were:-

- Sek. Keb. Kg. Tekek Pulau Tioman, Pahang
- Sek. Keb. Pulau Tinggi, Johor
- Sek. Keb. Pulau Sibul, Johor
- Sek. Keb. Pulau Redang, Terengganu
- Sek. Keb. Pulau Perhentian, Terengganu
- Sek. Keb. Mukut Pulau Tioman, Pahang
- Sek. Keb. Juara Pulau Tioman, Pahang

school camp

“I find that the contents of the camp to be very useful and educational. May I suggest to have the camp for adults next year?”

- Ab. Rahman Bin Ali, Tok Mok (Village Chief) of Pulau Tinggi



28th Arrest Case in Tioman

Director General of Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM), Tn. Hj. Abd. Jamal Bin Mydin has led a patrolling team to the arrest of an illegal trawler that was operating within the Tioman Marine Protected Area of 0.4 nautical miles. This is the 28th arrest case of illegal trawling in Tioman since January 2008. Bernama journalist, Pn. Melati Mohd. Ariff was also on board to witness the arrest. Mr. Wee Foo Long, Head of Pahang Unit made a police report and the boat was sent back to Department of Fisheries for further action.

Marine protected areas are up to 2 nautical miles from shore, and are gazetted by the Government of Malaysia for the purpose of conservation, which would help protect the marine ecosystem especially coral reefs and the marine flora and fauna.

Tn. Hj. Abd. Jamal instructing the boat to be escorted back to Tioman Marine Park Centre during the arrest.



In another case of arrest at Pulau Redang

Harian Metro, 4 May 2008

Bot nelayan ditahan kerana mencerooboh

>>Oleh AHMAD RABIUL ZULKIFLI
am@hmetro.com.my

KUALA TERENGGANU: Sebuah bot nelayan tempatan dari Pahang yang membawa lima nelayan Thailand ditahan penguat kuasa Unit Taman Laut Terengganu di perairan berhampiran Pulau Redang, kelmarin.

Bot pukat tunda kategori C2 itu ditahan kerana mencerooboh dan menjalankan aktiviti menangkap ikan berhampiran kawasan taman laut yang dilarang untuk aktiviti perikanan.

Ketua Unit Taman Laut negeri, Manaf Haron, berkata tangkapan dilakukan selepas pihaknya menerima aduan daripada penduduk pulau berkenaan mengenai pencerooboh bot terbabit, kira-kira jam 10.30 malam kelmarin.

Katanya, mengikut peraturan ditetapkan, bot kategori



Tangkapan dilakukan selepas pihaknya menerima aduan daripada penduduk pulau berkenaan

>>Manaf Haron
Ketua Unit Taman Laut negeri

C2 itu hanya boleh menangkap ikan di kawasan lebih 30 batu nautika dari pantai dan tindakan mereka didapati mencerooboh kawasan nelayan tradisional, selain berhampiran taman laut.

"Selain bot dan nelayan asing itu yang beroperasi selama empat hari, kita turut merampas kira-kira 1,500 kilogram hasil laut yang di-

tangkap, termasuk ikan dan sotong," katanya ketika ditemui di Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM), di sini semalam.

Manaf berkata, taman laut adalah kawasan perlindungan yang dilarang menjalankan aktiviti perikanan kerana di situ ada pelbagai spesies ikan membiak.

"Kegiatan nelayan terbabit di perairan larangan itu akan menjejaskan ekosistem hidupan laut dan batu karang di kawasan itu," katanya.

Manaf berkata, pihaknya berharap pengusaha bot pukat tunda kategori C2 yang bersaiz besar tidak menjalankan aktiviti perikanan di kawasan larangan kerana ia boleh menjejaskan sumber pencarian nelayan tradisional.

"Lima nelayan asing itu dibenarkan diikat jamin sebanyak RM1,000 seorang oleh polis, sementara kes mereka dibawa ke mahkamah," katanya.



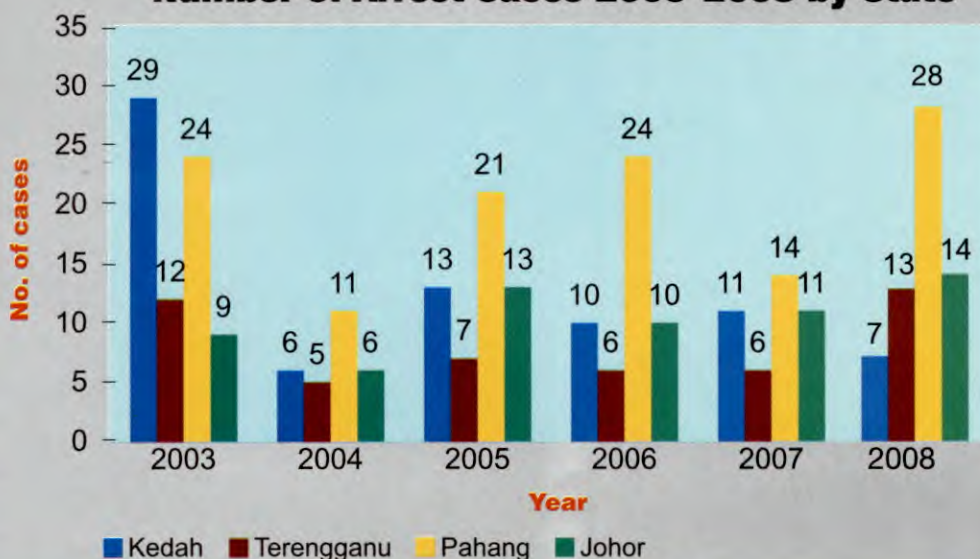
RAMPAS... penguat kuasa Jabatan Taman Laut Terengganu, Kapten Raja Adnan Raja Ahmad memeriksa ikan yang dirampas daripada bot yang mencerooboh taman laut dekat Pulau Redang.

Total arrest cases in 2003-2008

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	Total
Kedah	29	6	13	10	11	7	76
Terengganu	12	5	7	6	6	13	49
Pahang	24	11	21	24	14	28	122
Johor	9	6	13	10	11	14	63
Total	74	28	54	50	42	62	310



Number of Arrest Cases 2003-2008 by State



Summary of Marine Park staff who are authorized to arrest perpetrators within the marine protected areas in Malaysia

	Terengganu	Pahang	Johor	Kedah	Total	%
No. of staff authorized to arrest	19	12	12	12	55	61.1
No. of staff not authorized to arrest	13	7	7	8	35	38.9
	32	19	19	20	90	100

Arrest in Yu Island

Regular patrolling and arrests are carried out to protect marine life in Malaysia. Conservation of marine resources could help sustain and eventually improve the livelihoods of the island communities.

IN Terengganu, Tuan Halizan Tuan Kob (Officer-in-Charge) and Raja Adnan Raja Ahmad (Skipper) arrested 11 crews from an illegal trawler who were collecting sea cucumber (local

name: gamat) within the waters of Yu Island. The case was handed over to the Malaysian Terengganu Maritime Enforcement Agency for prosecution. This was the 48th arrest case made

in the Marine Park waters this year. Previous arrest cases were mainly on illegal trawlers that were operating within the two nautical miles of the Marine Protected areas.



ECO TOURISM

Malaysia is recognized as one of the best diving sites in the world. Every year, thousands of divers throng the Malaysian shores to learn and enjoy diving in the almost perfect sea conditions here. Malaysia offers a blend of Asian and international holiday atmosphere, warm waters, tropical climate and beautiful beaches that make the diving experience more challenging and rewarding. As tourism is directly related to the Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM), emphasis in protecting marine resources from human-induced impacts is vital by creating awareness and skills for the purpose of ecological tourism.

In 2008, as part of its social obligation to improved the local communities alternative livelihoods, DMPM has conducted the Open Water Diving Course for them in Sibu and Tinggi Islands, Johor; Tioman Island, Pahang and Perhentian and Redang Islands, Terengganu. The aim is to provide the locals skills to become professional snorkelling and diving guides, in order to increase their income. DMPM is already planning to expand this course for other local communities in other Marine Park islands in 2009.

DEFINITION OF MARINE ECOTOURISM

'A Sustainable form of natural resource based tourism that focuses primarily on experiencing and learning about nature, and which is ethically managed to be low impact, non-consumptive, and locally orientated (control, benefits and scale). It typically occurs in natural areas, and should contribute to the conservation and preservation of such areas.' (Fennel, 1999)

'Ecotourism can contribute to both conservation and development and involves, as a minimum, positive synergistic relationships between tourism, biodiversity and local people, facilitated by appropriate management.' (Ross & Wall, 1999)

'Nature-based tourism that involves education and interpretation of the natural environment and is managed to be ecologically sustainable while producing opportunities that help to make the conservation of natural resources beneficial to local people.' (Brian, 2003)

YOU COULD SAVE
THE CORAL REEFS &
MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YOU & ME:

- Keep clean. Dispose rubbish sensibly
- Do Not buy souvenir made from corals or shells
- Patronize responsible tour operators
- Tell friends to keep clean
- Participate in beach clean-ups
- Do Not fish in Marine Park areas

SNORKELLERS & DIVERS:

- Teach fellow snorkellers and divers on responsible snorkeling and diving
- Do Not step on corals
- Do Not disturb, destroy, remove or collect any coral and other aquatic life
- Do Not drop anchors on corals
- Participate in underwater clean-ups



Number of Visitors to Marine Park Islands (Jan 2000 - Jan 2008)

Year	Visitors	Kedah		Terengganu		Pahang		Johor		Total	Grand Total
2000	Local	19,944	106,780	43,390	52,634	72,383	200,589	44,824	63,226	180,541	423,229
	Foreigners	86,836		9,244		128,206		18,402		242,688	
2001	Local	38,027	127,541	65,539	73,580	127,675	243,052	27,963	39,948	259,204	484,121
	Foreigners	89,514		8,041		115,377		11,985		224,917	
2002	Local	56,259	133,775	56,263	64,304	127,675	228,600	27,235	38,908	267,432	465,587
	Foreigners	77,516		8,041		100,925		11,673		198,155	
2003	Local	44,291	114,684	71,654	79,217	128,676	172,787	10,016	14,384	254,637	381,072
	Foreigners	70,393		7,563		44,111		4,368		126,435	
2004	Local	36,282	135,272	111,225	142,476	184,238	249,025	24,444	33,089	356,189	559,862
	Foreigners	98,990		31,251		64,787		8,645		203,673	
2005	Local	19,607	94,099	98,863	123,159	77,570	167,761	32,440	44,861	228,480	429,880
	Foreigners	74,492		24,296		90,191		12,421		201,400	
2006	Local	26,043	112,648	93,546	135,098	104,602	215,936	41,210	56,333	265,401	520,015
	Foreigners	86,605		41,552		111,334		15,123		254,614	
2007	Local	24,580	110,629	112,844	151,397	73,688	149,000	51,558	66,656	262,670	477,682
	Foreigners	86,049		38,553		75,312		15,098		215,012	
Up to June 2008	Local	12,617	47,401	80,255	98,413	60,253	102,370	20,803	17,336	173,928	265,520
	Foreigners	51,554		18,158		42,117		13,869		125,698	
Grand Total		999,599		920,278		1,729,120		392,077		4,041,074	4,006,968

'TUKUN TIRUAN' IN MARINE PARKS OF MALAYSIA

'Tukun Tiruan', artificial reef/marine habitat, or aggregation device represent a popular and accessible technology for modifying aquatic ecosystems. Their deployment in Malaysia coastal waters especially in Marine Park has increased significantly in the past two decades.

Increase interest in artificial habitats comes from commercial, recreational, conservation and management sectors. Their goals can be quite different and include exploitation of fishery stocks for food, restoration of benthic habitats, conservation of biodiversity and even as a deterrent factor from illegal trawling in Marine Protected Area. Regardless of the underlying reason for the development of particular artificial marine habitat, the end result is the creation of habitat for certain fish species and other organisms that utilize the new habitat for a variety of reasons, such as shelter, feeding and spawning.

It is important to understand the limiting environmental factors related to the target fish species or invertebrates prior to developing an artificial marine habitat, so that there will be some understanding regarding the potential performance of that artificial reef. For instance, if someone were to build an artificial marine habitat in the middle of Terengganu waters with the intent of attracting snapper and grouper species or to increase coral reef area, the effort would most likely result in failure. However, if the purpose of the artificial marine habitat is to provide a known location where anglers would have the likelihood of catching sea trout, or there are known coral reef area adjacently to the proposed deployment area, the effort would likely be a success, with all other factors being equal (ie. appropriate bottom type, food items, tidal and wave action, etc.).

An artificial marine habitat is one or more objects of natural or human origin deployed purposefully on the seafloor to influence physical, biological or socioeconomic processes related to living marine resources. Artificial marine habitats are defined physically by the design, construction of materials and their purpose.

Benefits of Artificial Reefs

- ⊙ Enhance fishery resources
- ⊙ Recreational diving sites
- ⊙ Control of fish mortality
- ⊙ Protection of marine habitat
- ⊙ Conservation of marine biodiversity
- ⊙ Off-site mitigation of damaged and lost habitat
- ⊙ Research
- ⊙ Deterrent factor for illegal trawling

DESIGNED STRUCTURES OR 'TUKUN' DESIGNS

There are many unique structures designed to resemble local habitats over a long period of time that are expected to fit in ecologically with its assemblages including sessile organisms associated with its surface, structure, surrounding water column and eventually increase biomass of the site.



RECREATIONAL ARTIFICIAL MARINE HABITAT / 'TUKUN IKAN'

Material used: Concrete block (cube)
Location: Marine Parks in Terengganu, Kedah and Johor



DOME

Material used: Designed concrete
Location: Redang Island Marine Park
Previous 'tukun' was being deployed as simple fish attractors, but there are now increased focus on the designed structures to establish or expand population of plants and animals.



'TUKUN' ARTIFICIAL SEAGRASS

Material used: Poly-weave webbing ribbons mounted on weighted nylon mesh
Location: Redang Island Marine Park



BONE

Material used: Designed polyester 'bone' shaped block
Location: Redang Island Marine Park



LOBSTER ARTIFICIAL MARINE HABITAT

Material used: Designed concrete or ceramic
Location: Redang Island Marine Park



Traditional 'tukun' - 'unjam' (as fish attractors)



REEF BALL

REEFBALL

Material used: Designed Concrete
Location: Redang Island Marine Park and Tioman Island Marine Park

Selamat Datang 2008

to the newly appointed staff to the Department of Marine Park Malaysia



Putrajaya

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Tn Hj Abd Jamal Bin Mydin	Director General	13.10.08
2	Kamarruddin bin Ibrahim	Deputy Director General	26.05.08
3	Shahima bt Abdul Hamid	Director of Marine Park Planning and Management Division	02.06.08
4	Zahed bin Saidin	Director of Management Services Support	16.05.08
5	Geetha a/p Ramachandran	Assistant Director 1	01.03.08
6	Saliah bt Mohd Shafari	Information Technology Officer	12.03.08
7	Angelina Anak William	Assistant Information Technology Officer	28.03.08
8	Awaziah bt A.Rahman	Administration Assistant (Administration / Operation)	31.03.08
9	Mohd Fauzi bin Abu Bakar	Driver	14.04.08
10	Azizul bin Md Rasid	Driver	16.07.08
11	Haslina bt Hasbi	Administration Assistant (Secretary)	15.04.08
12	Dzahariah bt Kalil	Administration Assistant (Finance)	02.06.08
13	Wan Mohd Rizal bin Wan Hassan	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
14	Asma bt Mat Soh	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
15	Siw Woo Kong	Assistant Director	11.08.08
16	Khairathul Aswarita bt Tan	Accountant Officer	11.08.08
17	Ng Chee Keong	Civil Engineer	29.08.08
18	Syed Shahmil bin Syed Hussin	Diplomatic Administrative Officer	10.12.07
19	Thilampriya a/p Asoken	Diplomatic Administrative Officer	10.12.07
20	Mohd. Fazli bin Long	Marine Park Office	06.10.08
21	Mohd. Asri b. Awaluddin	Assitant Marine Park Office	01.12.08

Terengganu

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Mohd Razman bin Yong	Deckhand	13.04.08
2	Ahmad Zaidi bin Hj Mokhtar	Deckhand	13.04.08
3	Mohd Asri bin Said	Deckhand	13.04.08
4	Zaki bin Yahya	Deckhand	13.04.08
5	Azmi bin Yunus	Deckhand	13.04.08
6	Nik Faizal bin Mohd Yusof	Deckhand	13.04.08
7	Mahadi bin Mustafar	Office Assistant	13.04.08
8	Mohd Sukiman bin Abdullah	General Worker	30.06.08
9	Ros Akmaini bt Mat Aris	General Worker	30.06.08
10	Shahrul Adli bin Yusof	General Worker	30.06.08
11	Ahmad Ridzuan bin Hussin	General Worker	30.06.08
12	Rosman bin Alias	General Worker	30.06.08

Besut

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Tuan Ali bin Tuan Ismail	Deckhand	13.04.08
2	Che Razali bin Che Wil	Deckhand	13.04.08
3	Kamarulzaman bin Awang	Deckhand	13.04.08
4	Zaki bin Yahya	Deckhand	13.04.08
5	Tuan Mohd Ariff bin Tuan Samsudin	Deckhand	07.07.08
6	Mat Daud bin Dollah	General Worker	30.06.08
7	Zulkifly bin Ab Razak	General Worker	30.06.08
8	Noradilah bt Mohd Lawi	General Worker	30.06.08
9	Kamaruzaman bin Che Omar	General Worker	30.06.08
10	Mohd. Sabri bin Abdul Razak	General Worker	24.11.08
11	Mohd Hisham bin Ibrahim	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
12	Magenthiran a/l Tharmalingam	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
13	Che Zulkifly bin Md. Supri	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
14	Toh Abdullah bin Toh Taib	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08

Johor

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Mujahidin bin Mohamed	Deckhand	14.04.08
2	Abdul Hadi bin Ibrahim	Deckhand	14.04.08
3	Azri bin Azil	Deckhand	14.04.08
4	Mhd Yani bin Hanapiah	Deckhand	14.04.08
5	Ali Hashim bin Mohd Sharif	Deckhand	14.04.08
6	Ehwashahanes bt Md Hushin	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
7	Masnita Arianti bt Mohammed Salleh	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
8	Nur Sallehuddin bin Md. Ali	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
9	Mohd Hazmi bin Abdullah	General Worker	30.06.08
10	Razwan bin Ahmad	General Worker	30.06.08
11	Masfilisme bt Samiun	General Worker	30.06.08
12	Fairuk Izhar bin Mohd Yunus	General Worker	30.06.08
13	Mohd Syarin bin Mokhtar	General Worker	30.06.08
14	Amiruddin bin Sungyip	General Worker	13.10.08

Kedah

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Mohd Solahudden bin Othman	Deckhand	14.04.08
2	Mohd Bakhtiar bin Md.Desai	Deckhand	14.04.08
3	Syariman Farid bin Abu Bakar	Deckhand	14.04.08
4	Muhamad Firdaus bin Rosli	Deckhand	14.04.08
5	Mohd Fadil bin Yunasri	Deckhand	14.04.08
6	Shamsul bin Raselon	Deckhand	14.04.08
7	Muhamad Hanif bin Abdul Jalal	Deckhand	14.04.08
8	Mohd Suhaime bin Ismail	Deckhand	14.04.08
9	Muhamad Fairus bin Khalit	Deckhand	14.04.08
10	Alia bt Md Amin	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
11	Muhamad Ridzuan bin Mat Nayan	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
12	Rozaida bt Hamidan	General Worker	30.06.08
13	Muhamad Firdaus bin Che Mat	General Worker	30.06.08
14	Mohd Amirullah bin Abu Bakar	General Worker	30.06.08
15	Abdul Shukor bin Abu Bakar	General Worker	30.06.08
16	Mohd Khairulnazar bin Dahalan	General Worker	30.06.08

Pahang

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Muhammad Nasharuddin bin Md Din	Deckhand	14.04.08
2	Ruzaini bin A.Rahman	Deckhand	14.04.08
3	Shazali bin Razali	Deckhand	14.04.08
4	Shaharuddin bin Abdul Manaf	Deckhand	14.04.08
5	Mat Hatiri bin Ali Hussain	Deckhand	14.04.08
6	Ahmad Zafrul Hasnan bin Mohd Nor	Deckhand	14.04.08
7	Baharuddin bin Mat Jidin	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
8	Juliana bt Mustpha	Marine Park Assistant	02.06.08
9	Amier Hamzah bin Abd Rahim	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
10	Abdul Hafiz bin Shaari	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
11	Noormunira bt Awang Mat	General Worker	30.06.08
12	Abdul Razak bin Zakaria	General Worker	30.06.08
13	Abdul Hadi bin Roslan	General Worker	30.06.08

Labuan

No.	New staff	Designation	Date joined
1	Albert Apollo Chan	Marine Park Officer	20.10.08
2	Zulkifli B. Ramli	Marine Park Assistant Officer	13.10.08
3	Feddly bin Arshad	Marine Park Assistant	16.06.08
4	Marcia Maikel	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
5	Syahrizul B. Julai @ Julaili	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08
6	Hamka bin Juhuri	Marine Park Assistant	13.10.08

Farewell to all out-going staff.

Terima Kasih

1. Nur Shazrina Mohd Binti Shahfaruddin - Special Assistant to DG
2. Syaifena Zainuddin - Director of Management Services Division
3. Hamidon Ahmad - Assistant Fisheries Officer
4. Nur Farahiyah Abd Aziz - Fisheries Officer
5. Raja Yana Melessa Raja Haroon Arashid - Fisheries Officer
6. Muszaidi Fazli Mustapa - Office Assistant
7. Nazri Nasir - Driver
8. Mohamad Sukiman bin Abdullah - General Worker
9. Nor Azman bin Che Din - Marine Park Assistant

10. Hambali bin Hussin - Engineman
11. Othman bin Ahmad - Engineman
12. Rahmat Adnan bin Shaharuddin - Driver
13. Suzywati Binti Abdul Wahab - Finance Administration Assistant
14. Lateh bin Abraham - Skipper
15. Ahmad Abd Razak bin Yaacob - Marine Park Assistant
16. Zairi Azrul bin Zainal - General Worker

DMPM wishes you all the best!



Y. B. Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas official visit to DMPM

Y. B. Datuk Douglas Uggah Embas made his first official visit to DMPM on 15th April 2008 upon his appointment as the new Minister of Natural Resources and Environment. Tn. Hj. Abd. Jamal Mydin, the new Director General gave the Minister a thorough introduction to the Department that includes development planning, management enforcement and human resource. At the end of his visit, Y. B. Datuk Douglas has advised DMPM to carry out its duties and services with a high levels of efficiency and quality

The Royal Family Visits Payar Island

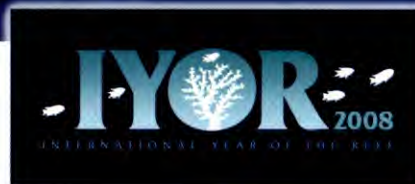
The year 2008 marks the 20th anniversary of the establishment of Pulau Payar as the first Marine Park island in Malaysia, besides being one of the main tourist destination for Kedah and Malaysia.

This year, Payar Island also received its most distinctive guest from **His Royal Highness Duli Yang Maha Mulia Yang Dipertuan Agong** and **Duli Yang Maha Mulia Raja Permaisuri Agong** in conjunction with the State of Kedah Darul Aman's Golden Jubilee celebration. His Majesty was accompanied by the **Royal Prince DYMM Tengku Temenggung** while on his trip to snorkeling and diving within the waters of Pulau Payar.

The royal family had the opportunity to enjoy the natural coral reef conditions together in Payar Island. His Majesty was glad to comment that he could witness some coral fish species which bears the size of a grouper. They spent about four hours in Payar before returning to Langkawi Island.



DYMM Al-Wathiqu Billah Tuanku Mizan Zainal Abidin
Ibni Al-Marhum Sultan Mahmud Al-Muktafi Billah Shah



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE REEF 2008 MALAYSIA

OUR Reefs, OUR Heritage, OUR Responsibility

As guardian of coral reefs in Malaysia, DMPM is directly involved in the International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2008. The project staff were appointed as committee members of the IYOR 2008 Malaysia under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

The Committee organised the launching of IYOR 2008 Malaysia on 23rd February at One Utama Shopping Centre, Petaling Jaya, and was officiated by the Secretary General of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Y. Bhg. Datuk Suboh Bin Mohd Yassin. Ms Maya Karin, the

ambassador of IYOR 2008 was invited to witness the event

The launching and other activities under the IYOR 2008 Malaysia, such as beach clean-ups, reef clean-ups, photography competition, workshops; are regarded as a platform for DMPM's awareness exercise. Other committee members comprised heads from various NGOs such as Coral Malaysia, Reef Check Malaysia, WWF (Universiti Kebangsaan, Universiti Malaya) Taylor's College as well as Johor National Parks Corporation.



MARINE PARK LONG TERM WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAMME

The Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM) has commissioned University of Malaya Consultancy Unit in collaboration with Alam Sekitar Malaysia (ASMA) Sdn. Bhd. to carry out a marine and freshwater quality monitoring regime developed by the Department. A total of 86 stations for the marine water quality and 95 stations for the islands' river water quality were identified for the study. The sampling programme started in July 2008. Two samplings have been carried out in all marine park islands in July and August. In-situ data and laboratory results were obtained and are in the process of being analysed. This study is the FIRST COMPREHENSIVE study in all these islands as data are collected and analysed from three different depths. Officers of the Department are also trained in identifying river points, data collection, equipment handling and sample handling and storage.



Systematic Marine Biodiversity Inventory System (SymBiosIS)

WEB-BASED DATABASE OF MARINE BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY INVENTORY

What is SymBiosIS?

Malaysia has been recognized as one of the 12 nations in the world that is rich in its marine biodiversity. It is the noble idea of the Prime Minister, YAB Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi who wishes to inventory the marine biological resources in Malaysia. The creation of SymBiosIS by DMPM will be the first listed and searchable database on marine organisms found here.

The acronym SymBiosIS that stands for Systematic Marine Biodiversity Inventory System is self-explanatory, and will be managed by the in-house Information Communications Technology Division of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (NRE) with inputs from DMPM.

The information in SymBiosIS is and will be contributed by researchers who are members of the Technical Committee for Marine Biodiversity Inventory, Research Institutions, Universities, NGOs, as well as recognized publications and databases online.

With the database, DMPM will be able to map out and identify the marine resources more accurately. Eventually, it will help to avoid depletion, unsustainable exploitation and development, as well as extinction of species before discovery. It will definitely improve DMPM's data management for planning and implementation of activities of the Department, e.g. identify potential sites for protection, installation of buoys, etc.

Why is SymBiosIS developed?

SymBiosIS is mainly an inventory database system on marine species in Malaysia, which is accessible online by the public via <http://symbiosis.nre.gov.my>. It is developed:-

- as a catalogue on taxonomic and biological attributes of marine organisms found in Malaysia
- to better manage the Malaysian marine biological resources data
- for researchers and practitioners especially in the field of marine biology, students, policy makers and the general public to acquire and share information on marine resources of Malaysia
- as a tool to educate the public on the importance of conserving marine biodiversity.

How can you be a SymBiosIS contributor?

To contribute, you need to be an active researcher especially in the field of marine biology or marine species taxonomy. Please register online at <http://symbiosis.nre.gov.my>.



DMPM RESEARCH PLANNING WORKSHOP

In line with the Department's aim to better manage our marine natural resources base on scientific information, the Research and Resource Inventory Division held a 1½ day workshop at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre on 15th and 16th September 2008, to plan for the Department's long term research programmes. The Division had received priceless ideas and comments especially from the States Marine Park Officers who understand issues faced at ground level. These ideas were compiled and analysed to develop the Marine Park Research Plan for 2009-2015. Further consultations will be carried out to strengthen the Plan. The comprehensive research plan will be used as a guideline for budget applications and projects planning for DMPM in the future. The document however, will not be static and would be reviewed constantly to better capture and solve current issues.



Reef Check Training

The Research and Resource Inventory Division organised the Coral Reef Inventory and Reef Check course for DMPM Officers in November 2008. The 2-part course was led by Mr. Julian Hyde of Reef Check Malaysia with 14 staff members participated from DMPM's headquarters and State Units. The first part was held at the Bandar Tun Razak swimming pool on 3rd and 4th November, whilst the second part in Tioman Island on 24th until 29th November.

The objective of the course is to train officers and staff on the Reef Check Survey methods to monitor coral reefs. The staff were taught on buoyancy control while carrying out the Fish Survey, Invertebrate Survey and Substrate Survey. All participants were tested on identification of substrate, fish and invertebrate species to pass and obtain a certificate for the course.

DMPM aims to carry out the survey independently in all Marine Park islands in the near future, which could save the cost of research.

KEDAH Marine Education Program

Pulau Payar

The Kedah Marine Park office has once again, organised the Marine Education Programme at the Marine Park Centre of Pulau Payar. 59 participants who attended the Programme were teachers from Baling-Sik district, Redang, Tioman and Perhentian islands with some Marine Park staff. The camp was aimed to train the teachers or trainers to become facilitators for their own student groups in environmental education, which is part of the curriculum as well as co-curriculum in school. Eventhough the programme was done in the Marine Park, the focus was not on marine aspect alone, but on caring for the environment as a whole.



The participants spent three days and two nights camping under the million stars gazebo in the island with beds made of tables and benches meant for tourists. Although the camp was tough, the teachers enjoyed the trainings as they went through different challenging activities, all marine and environment related. There was an obstacle game where they had to jungle-trek blindfolded. It is for them to learn to appreciate nature with all senses except eyesight. They were also taught creativity skills to produce art materials made of sand for their students.

Many found the toughest challenge was to swim (and snorkel) to Langkawi Coral, a tourist viewing platform located off the shore of Payar Island. Despite the strong wind and current, all the participants managed to reach the platform and return safely to camp base with great satisfaction.

At the end of the camp, all the participants thanked the team of trainers from the Kedah Education Office as well as DMPM. Everyone agreed that the experience and knowledge gained in the camp are invaluable.



Redang Celebrates International Year of Reef 2008

It has been an extremely busy week for the local communities in the beautiful Island of Redang, Terengganu as they celebrate the International Year of Reef 2008, with villagers, resort operators, dive centre operators, school children and their teachers, all working hastily on conservation programmes on the island. The 'Redang Celebrate IYOR' was launched by YB Toh Chin Yaw, Chairman of the Terengganu State Executive Council, with various marine conservation events.

In the village of Pulau Redang, a group of 20 Years 4 and 5 students from Sekolah Rendah Pulau Redang was led by the Marine Park Project team of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM), to a tour around Berjaya Redang Resort and a **beach clean-up** in Marine Park Centre.



Daniel Lee of Reef Check (Right) guiding the students during the beach cleanup. Students were also taught to identify different types of rubbish.

The visit to Berjaya Redang Beach Resort has introduced the students the various departments and career options in the hospitality industry, by five Heads of department of the resort. The children were then given a tour around the resort by the Human Resource Executive, Mr. At Ziafrizani Chek Pa, and was concluded with a fun-filled telematch.



Mr. Mohd Helmi M. Thani of Berjaya Redang Resort briefing the students about his role in the resort as a Sous Chef.

While the children were cleaning up the beaches and learning the right ways of littering behavior, over 130 volunteer divers were also busy clearing up rubbish and crown-of-thorns starfish under the sea. The **Redang Reef Clean Up** was flagged off by Y. Bhg. Dato' Wan Zahari Bin Wan Ngah, Director of TREVICOSTA (Terengganu Riverine and Coastal Authority) to educate the general public about marine conservation. Divers from Redang Reef



Part of the 400 crown-of-thorns collected during the Redang Reef Cleanup 2008.

In picture (front row from left): YB Toh Chin Yaw, Chairman of State Executive Council, Y Bhg Dato' Wan Zahari Wan Ngah, Director of TREVICOSTA, En. Kamarruddin Ibrahim, Deputy Director General of DMPM.

Standing (from left): En. Ab Rahim Gor Yaman, Director of Enforcement and Licensing DMPM and volunteer divers from the resorts.

Rangers, DMPM as well as tourists were involved in six dive sessions at Pulau Lima, Pulau Lang Tengah, Terumbu Kili and Pasir Akar, all within the Redang archipelago that had more than 400 crown-of-thorns removed.

The launching of **Redang Reef Rangers** by Mr. Yap Chuan Bin, Honorable Secretary of Redang Operators Association has also added a new milestone to the Redang marine conservation programme. Started with 100 members comprising mainly licensed divers, the Redang Reef Rangers carries the objective to retain the quality and beauty of Redang Island marine ecosystem through participation from its stakeholders.



Students were brought to a snorkeling session at the Redang Marine Park Centre.

REDANG REEF RANGERS



Redang Reef Rangers is a group of volunteers established by the State Government of Terengganu to assist in marine conservation exercises, to maintain and improve the coral reef conditions in Redang Island in particular.

Launched on 27th August 2008 by Mr. Yap Chuan Bin, Honorable Secretary of Redang Operators Association and with an inaugural 100 members from mainly resorts and dive centres, the Redang Reef Rangers' objective and mission are to:

- Develop awareness on marine ecosystem conservation to the public and stakeholders
- Promote and encourage participation from stakeholders in the management of Redang Island Marine Park
- Ensure the Terengganu Redang Island Marine Park retains the quality and beauty through sustainable use and maintain its long-term investment values.

The Redang Reef Rangers is chaired by Y. Bhg. Dato' Wan Zahari Bin Wan Ngah, Executive Committee who is also the Director of TREVICOSTA (Terengganu Riverine and Coastal Authority), with a Pro-tem committee from nine resorts in the island. Its members will receive trainings in various dive-related courses such as Eco-Diver, Helmsmanship, Marine Guide for Divers and Snorkeler, Safety and Rescue, etc.

Fundings for the Redang Reef Rangers activities will be contributed by the Redang Operators Association for conservation programmes, reef clean ups and Reef Check surveys.

TREVICOSTA visit to Tioman Island

28-31 Oct 2008

The Director of TREVICOSTA (Terengganu Riverine and Coastal Authority), Dato' Wan Zahari Bin Wan Ngah has led a delegate of 30 members from the Redang and Perhentian Islands Village Committee of Development and Safety (JKKK – Jawatankuasa Kemajuan dan Keselamatan Kampung), which was co-organised by the Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM). The visit was joined by staff members from the Terengganu Marine Park Unit.

JKKK is a committee established by the State Government Executive Council under the jurisdiction of the Federal Development Department since 1 June 2004. Its responsibilities include administration, development, economic, education, health and beauty, religion and spiritual wellness, community and social development, as well as safety of the communities in a village. In short, it is to oversee the welfare and harmony of the people within the village. The JKKK committee members do not exceed 15 people which includes the village chief or Ketua Kampung, Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Secretary.



Dato' Wan Zahari Bin Wan Ngah
Director of TREVICOSTA

The JKKK of Pulau Redang is headed by Encik Ladin bin Awang with 11 committee members. This Committee reports to the District and Land Office of Kuala Terengganu, where Mr. Zamari Bin Abu Zih is the penghulu mukim. Meanwhile, in Perhentian Island, its JKKK is headed by Mr. Che Omar Bin Che Mat with 13 members, under the Besut District and Land Office, with Mr. Haji Wan Abd Rahim bin Wan Daud as the penghulu mukim.

The objective of this trip is to demonstrate to the JKKK of Kampung Pulau Redang and Perhentian the achievements of Tioman Rakan Park, where it has successfully united all five villages as one community in the Island. Tok Empat of Kampung Tekek, who is also the Chairman of Tioman Rakan Park gave the visitors an overview about the establishment of Tioman Rakan Park, which has now become the role model for other Marine Park islands.

The Pahang Marine Park Unit welcomed their visitors with a simple island reception at the Marine Park Centre. The occasion was graced by the Director General of DMPM, Tn. Hj. Abd. Jamal Bin Mydin. He explained Marine Park's role especially in the management of Pahang State. He added that with the cooperation from members of Rakan Park Tioman, its Marine Park management in Tioman has become more resilient. Mr. Wee Foo Long, Head of Pahang Marine Park Unit, enhanced his speech with a presentation about the Unit.

The visitors toured around the island, where they visited all the five villages in Tekek, Genting, Mukut, Juara and Salang. They were warmly welcomed by all the village folks. Mr. Mohd Nor Bin Hidon, Tioman's Village Chief (Penghulu) welcomed the guests with a dinner at his home.

The community of Tioman was awed by the visit from TREVICOSTA and is already planning a reciprocal visit back to Redang and Perhentian islands next year. Dato' Wan Zahari has indicated that the occasion will be welcomed in Terengganu at any time in the future. The tour has definitely brought together JKKK members of the three islands and strengthen their relationship.



Reported by: Bahrinah Bt Bahrim (Mrine Park Officer)

On 30th June – 2nd July, the massive community event which focused on environmental awareness, 'Tioman OUR Heritage' was officiated by the Deputy Minister of NRE, Y.B. Senator Dato' Maznah Mazlan, who also launched Rakan Park Pulau Tioman at the same time. All Departments under the Ministry participated in the programme via 'Community's Day'. Exhibition booths were put up for the locals and tourists to learn more about the functions of the Departments in NRE. Many suggestions were received during the 3-day event.

Activities on environmental awareness (marine environment in particular) involved mostly local communities and tourists of the island. Kampung Tekek and Kampung Air Batang won the Champions Trophy for 'Cleanest Village Competition', with representatives from all Departments in NRE being the judges.

32 members of Rakan Park were installed through the presentation of certificates, identification cards and T-shirts. The first Chairman was Mr. Kamarolzaman B. Ismail, who is also the Village Chief of Kampung Tekek.

Dato' Maznah also chaired a dialogue with dive shop operators and the media, where useful suggestions and ideas were discussed for the betterment of the dive operators and improvement of sites in Tioman Island.

Talks were given by Department of Marine Park and Wildlife to the public. Children enjoyed the colouring contest and fun sports where many prizes and trophies were given out.



TIOMAN OUR HERITAGE



PULAU TIOMAN

Rakan Park Pulau Tioman literally means Friends of Park, or also known as 'Friends of Marine Park', is the first Malaysian community park rangers corps founded by the Pahang Marine Park Unit. The idea of Rakan Park was mooted by the Head of Pahang Marine Park Unit to assist DMPM in combating illegal activities and environmental problems within the Marine Park protected areas.

It was quickly accepted by DMPM as its aim is abreast with DMPM's mission to include its stakeholders for a cohesive marine resources management. As a result, Rakan Park was established on 6th September 2007 as a pioneering community project in Tioman Island.

Rakan Park is the link between local communities with DMPM. Members of Rakan Park consist of representatives from all villages on the island. Its main attributes are Community-oriented Consultative Management and Smart Partnership. This can be achieved through clear, simple and unified approach, with encouragement of local communities as members of Rakan Park to be the eyes and ears of DMPM. Trainings, workshops and courses will be planned for the Rakan Park members and staff of DMPM to enhance the capabilities of the workforce of the corps.

DMPM has from the start, recognized that the local communities of Marine Park islands as the main stakeholders. With Rakan Park as liaison between DMPM and the local communities, DMPM's functions and responsibilities in marine resources management can be effectively carried out. As a newly established department in the country, it is hoped that DMPM's reputation can be uplifted and made known to the people.



Rakan Park Tioman

Beach-Reef Clean Up at Tinggi Island 2008

A cleaning program for beaches and reefs in Tinggi Island, Mersing was held on 12th - 14th August 2008. The program was jointly organized by the Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM) and Johor National Parks Corporation (JNPC). 60 participants consisting staff from DMPM and JNPC, together with local residence had made this program a success. This event was a result from the declaration made by D.Y.A.M Tunku Ibrahim Ismail Ibn Sultan Ibrahim Al-Haj during His Majesty's Royal Island Expedition (Kembara Mahkota Jelajah Pulau) 2007 that emphasizes on the cleanliness of islets surrounding Johor waters.

The event, besides achieving its objective of cleaning up the islands (land and sea), had indirectly strengthened the relationships among state and local stakeholders with DMPM. Apart from that, participants especially the local communities were instilled with the knowledge and awareness for marine conservation. It is expected that more environmental conservation and awareness programs will be held here in the near future.



Program participants from DMPM and PTNJ (Photo by Gai Foto)



WHAT IS...

CROWN-OF-THORNS STARFISH

Common Name:

Crown-of-Thorns starfish

Local Name:

Tapak Sulaiman Mahkota Berduri

Scientific Name:

Acanthaster planci



What are Crown-of-Thorns (COT)?

Crown-of-thorns starfish are naturally occurring animals on coral reefs. Adult COTs have more than fifteen 'arms' and are usually blue, but sometimes purple or red. To protect itself, COTs have short toxic spines that are embedded in the skin. An efficient predator, COTs can consume 5-13 square meters of living coral a year.

What is a COT outbreak?

COTs are part of the coral reef ecosystem, usually there are about 1-20 COTs per hectare of reef. However, during an outbreak, the naturally low numbers of COTs increase to over 30 or thousands of COTs per hectare of coral reef. The COTs cluster together and devour the living coral, leaving a white graveyard of dead coral behind. The dead corals become covered in brown algae.

Why do COT outbreaks happen?

Outbreaks occur naturally. Specific causes for outbreaks are not well understood. Scientists are researching a possible link with human activities such as use of pesticides and fertilizers in farms. Some scientists have proposed overfishing of COT predators, Napoleon Wrasse and Triton Shells may have led to the outbreaks.



How do we Clean-Up COT?

Before starting any 'clean-up' program, it is necessary to know the conditions of COT and the size of the area affected. Several factors are important to ensure the success of a COT cleanup:

- The reef is not too damaged already by COT or human activities
- The reef area is small enough to monitor
- The population of COT is small enough to maintain effective control.
- For most COT outbreaks in Marine Park in Malaysia, the best clean-up method is physical removal from the reef and buried ashore.

Who can clean-up COT?

Any responsible divers who are interested in helping the marine environment can help on the designated COT clean-up day with the assistance from Department of Marine Park Malaysia (DMPM).

Find out about COT clean-up events from the local Marine Park or center.



How can we HELP?

There are a lot that we can do to protect our coral reefs and help our coastal communities. Here are just a few:

- Report illegal fishing activities that destroy reefs, such as illegal trawling to DMPM.
- Do not remove living shells or corals or buy ornamental shells or coral. Shells are important animals in the healthy coral reef environment, especially Triton shells that eat COTS.
- Dispose of chemicals and trash properly. Waste thrown into rivers is carried to the ocean where it kills healthy reefs and other marine animals.
- Participate in COTS and coastal clean-ups.