



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***VISITORS' AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF PUTRAJAYA  
WETLAND PARK***

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**VISITORS' AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF PUTRAJAYA WETLAND  
PARK**

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## ABSTRACT

Realising the positive impacts of preserving and conserving the natural environment on peoples' quality of life certain areas have been developed as preservation and conservation sites of the natural environment in an effort to enhance the biodiversity and ecological integrity of local flora and fauna. However, such activities did not normally attract much attention, cooperation and commitment of both the general public and the private sector as they did not bring in direct and substantial material benefits and profits. This study gauged visitors awareness of the preservation and conservation of Putrajaya Wetland Park, the first and largest man-made lakes in Malaysia and examine the types of visitors who visited the Putrajaya Wetland Park. This study used quantitative methods through 200 questionnaires. Overall, the study found that there were still many who did not know about the exact ecological functions of the Putrajaya Wetland Park. The demographic background of the respondents such as gender, age, race, education level, and occupation was obtained. Most of the visitors were married (66%) and also most of them were degree holder (48%). Data obtained were analyzed with a 'Multiple Linear Regression' in Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). In this study, it is hoped that it can give some indication of visitor awareness of conservation in the Putrajaya Wetland Park.

## ABSTRAK

Kesedaran tentang impak positif kepada kualiti hidup manusia daripada pemeliharaan dan pemuliharaan alam semula jadi, beberapa kawasan telah dibangunkan sebagai tapak pemeliharaan dan pemuliharaan khusus bagi meningkatkan biodiversiti dan integriti ekosistem flora dan fauna. Namun begitu, aktiviti pemeliharaan dan pemuliharaan lazimnya kurang mendapat perhatian, kerjasama dan komitmen awam dan swasta kerana ianya tidak memberikan imbuhan dan keuntungan material secara langsung dan berlipat ganda. Kajian ini mentaksir kesedaran pengunjung terhadap usaha pemeliharaan dan pemuliharaan alam semula jadi Taman Wetland Putrajaya, sebuah tasik buatan manusia pertama dan terbesar di Malaysia serta mengkaji jenis pelawat yang berkunjung ke Taman Wetland Putrajaya. Kajian ini menggunakan kaedah kuantitatif melalui 200 borang soal selidik. Secara keseluruhannya, hasil kajian mendapati bahawa masih ramai pengunjung yang tidak mengetahui fungsi sebenar Taman Wetland Putrajaya kepada pembangunan Putrajaya. Latar belakang demografi responden seperti jantina, umur, bangsa, tahap pendidikan dan pendapatan bulanan telah diperolehi. Kebanyakan pengunjung adalah orang yang telah berkahwin (66%) dan telah memiliki ijazah (48%). Data yang telah diperolehi telah dianalisis dengan '*Multiple Linear Regression*' di dalam '*Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS)*'. Dengan adanya kajian ini, diharapkan semoga ianya dapat menggambarkan sedikit petunjuk mengenai kesedaran pengunjung terhadap konservasi di Taman Wetland Putrajaya.

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## APPROVAL SHEET

I certify that this research project report entitled **“Visitors’ Awareness on The Conservation of Putrajaya Wetland Park”** by **Mohd Kharsidi Bin Mohd Kasim** has been examined and approved as a partial fulfillment of the requirements of the degree of Bachelor of Park and Recreation Science in Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia.

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**VISITORS' AWARENESS ON THE CONSERVATION OF PUTRAJAYA  
WETLAND PARK**

**BY**

**MOHAMAD KHARSIDI BIN MOHD KASIM**

**A Project Report Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the  
Degree of Bachelor of Park and Recreation Science in the  
Faculty of Forestry  
Universiti Putra Malaysia**

**2016**

## **DEDICATION**

**A Special Dedication to:**

### **My Family**

**My parents, Mohd Kasim Bin Sokiman and Habibi Binti Abd. Halim  
My younger sisters Vivi Nur Khalieda**

**Thank you for your love and support**

### **My Supervisor**

**Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zaiton Samdin  
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**and also to all my friends  
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## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 General Background**

Malaysia is situated on the line of khatulistiwa that make Malaysia rich and diverse in her natural environment which includes wetlands. According to RAMSAR, there are 41 types of wetlands in Malaysia alone, which are mangrove, swamps, peat swamps, mudflats and coral reefs. Basically, wetlands are defined by Malaysia Nature Society (2003) as lands submerged or inundated by water all or for any period of time. Wetlands are defined by the Convention of Wetlands of International Importance Ramsar Convention 1971 as "Land inundated with temporary or permanent water that is usually slow moving or stationary, shallow, fresh, brackish or saline, where the inundation determines the type and productivity of soils and the plant and animal communities". Visitors appreciation and understanding about wetlands is the key to take awareness about conservation (Shunula 2002).

The word conservation is the word consisting of the word con (together) and serve (keep / store) with the purpose of understanding of the effort to maintain what we have (keep / save what is there), but use it wisely, The idea put forward by R Nash (1968), which is an American to bring the concept of conservation .

Meanwhile, according to Whitmore (1980), a mechanism where conservation is to maintain what is or is owned by the present for future reclaimed later. Conservation can be seen in terms of conservation and ecological

economies where emerging economies allocate resources and ecology nowadays also maintain natural resources for future generations.

American Dictionary declared Conservation is the use of natural resources on a large scale to meet the needs of people for a long time. In addition, the Randall (1982) tells in his report conservation is a natural resource management from time to time where conservation is the management of air, water, land, mineral to the human organism in order to achieve a quality of good life and Gibbs (1993) define that as the management of the biosphere by human beings so that they can find something that could be renewed for local populations and future generations.

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

Malaysians are generally less familiar with the importance of wetlands (AC Er et al. 2015). Recognizing the positive impact protection and conservation of the natural environment to the Malaysian public, especially, certain areas have been developed as a maintenance and conservation of the natural site in order to increase biodiversity and ecological integrity of the local flora and fauna. However, such activities do not usually draw attention, cooperation and commitment of both the public and private sectors because they did not bring immediate and substantial material benefits and advantages (AC Er et al. 2015). This study assessed visitors' awareness of preservation and conservation of Putrajaya Wetland Park the first and largest man-made lakes in Malaysia (Taman Wetland, 2013).

Rapid technological development and increasing human activities have contributed and progress in the social, economic and political beings, but indirectly, the process for the implementation of development objectives was to cause pollution to the environment. Environmental pollution will lead to the downgrading of the health and safety of the population, depletion of the ozone layer, removal of aquatic life and the extinction of flora and fauna Katiman Rostam (2009), then this is where the need for public awareness in efforts to promote the whole society to be aware of the preservation of nature, especially in Putrajaya Wetland Park.

The balance of nature is for situations in which the interaction between organisms with the environment. The importance of this natural balance is important because it can sustain life. To achieve the perfect balance of nature, the role of the natural cycle very important. The cycle of nature is like the carbon cycle, the nitrogen cycle and the water cycle where the occurrence of this process is wetlands. For the water cycle, water evaporates from plant transpiration and respiration of animals. Through this process, the water evaporates to form clouds and returns to the maintenance and conservation of the environment.

When all the natural cycles that occurs properly, it allows the organism to survive and reproduce to maintain the species. The nitrogen cycle, it will be used to provide nutrients to the plant. Carbon cycle processes will produce carbon dioxide that will be released during respiration (breathing) is used by plants. Therefore, the plants will produce food and oxygen supply to the

animals. For the water cycle, water evaporates from plant transpiration and respiration of animals. Through this process, the water evaporates to form clouds and fall back to earth with rain water (Jiri Marsalek, 2008). Most people do not realize all this now. Thus, all things are needed to be known as the visitors that visit so that they realize it, in Putrajaya Wetland Park they have one place called Natural interpretive Centre that have all information about how important are Wetland to the world.

Favors the natural treasures that no amount of perfect and natural heritage and must be preserved for all humanity and remain in the world for generations to come. In another point of view, nature is the source or sources should be explored to develop the economic growth and social welfare (UNESCO 2012).

The philosophy of conservation and preservation also supports the concept of a balanced development that maintains the ecological processes essential to support life, maintain genetic diversity, and ensure the continued use of natural resources (Marian, 2008). The role of maintenance and conservation should be applied to the younger generation because they are more susceptible to the activities involving the environment. Therefore, early exposure on the importance of preservation and conservation of the environment can be absorbed by activities or subject to student learning whether in school or in high-level institutions.



According to AC Er and Catherine (2012), the contributions of this group are needed because they have the potential to create a new invention idea that seeks to preserve the environment. Among the contributions that can be made at the school level is with a visit to foster understanding of the preservation and conservation of the environment Putrajaya Wetland Park. Various activities were provided by the Corporation for Putrajaya Wetland Park to promote awareness of the importance of nature conservation in wetlands, but the extent to which this awareness can be nurtured.

Restoration of wetlands near urban areas allows for a variety of educational benefits for example, enhancing public understanding and public awareness for natural areas (Ehrenfeld, 2000). In urban areas to population centers large, wetlands are expected to receive more visitors because it is easier to get there, rather than a remote suburban and remote area (Callaway and Zedler, 2004). Thus the construction of Putrajaya Wetland Park is very timely due to its distance from the capital city of Kuala Lumpur, but the extent to which the understanding of visitors to this Putrajaya Wetland Park on function or just come and go without specific knowledge about wetlands.

### **1.3 Objectives**

The main objective of this study is to identify visitors awareness about Putrajaya Wetland Park. The specific objectives of this study are:

1. To evaluate the level of awareness on conservation of visitors at Putrajaya Wetland Park.
2. To determine the visitors social demographic that came to Putrajaya Wetland Park.

### **1.4 Significant of study**

The result of this study is to provide information to the Perbadanan Putrajaya on public awareness of the existence and function of Putrajaya Wetland Park. In addition it is expected that the Putrajaya Corporation can organize several programs that coincide with all levels of people and all ages. They can also design a program that can attract more visitors and indirectly make people realize that the importance of the Putrajaya Wetland Park. In addition, it is expected that the information provided will help formulate Wetland Park and restructuring activities so that activities can generate greater awareness to visitors. It is important that visitors who come to know about the Wetland Park and the conservation of the Putrajaya Wetland Park. Also expected tourism Malaysia to promote the Putrajaya Wetland Park and included in its annual calendar of one of the interesting places to visit.

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