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RECREATION RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR FOREST CAMPGROUND PLANNING AT AYER HITAM FOREST RESERVE, PUCHONG

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RECREATION RESOURCES ASSESSMENT FOR FOREST CAMPGROUND PLANNING AT AYER HITAM FOREST RESERVE, PUCHONG



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"Success is what happens after you've survived all your mistakes"

Brian Johnson

Mak & Ayah

Apy, Ariey, Apey, Awo & Awan

Heiqal Hilmi, Ayu Kusen, & Siti Nasuha

Thank you very much for your love and endless support

ABSTRACT

Forest campground is one of the facilities provided in Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Puchong. Due to the long-term utilisation of the current forest campground, the issue of campground identity is recognised. A study using Resource Assessment approach was conducted at proposed study site is to assess the characteristics of the existent resources for ideal structures development and layout plan at Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve. Data was collected in 3 different zones using resource inventory form (RRIF) for 12 weeks. The finding proven that zone 2 had the highest mean score which represent high value of resources. The remains zones proposed for structures and facilities development. These finding followed by proposed sketches and layout of forest campground. Thus, this study may provide valuable information regarding to the RPH and management planning for Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Puchong.

ABSTRAK

Tapak perkhemahan adalah salah satu kemudahan yang terdapat di Hutan Simpan Ayer Hitam , Puchong. Oleh kerana penggunaan kemudahan ini pada jangka panjang yang panjang, isu berkenaan identiti tapak perkhemahan dikenalpasti. Kajian menggunakan pendekatan Penilaian Sumber telah dijalankan di kawasan kajian bertujuan untuk menilai ciri-ciri sumber yang wujud di kawasan kajian untuk pembangunan struktur yang ideal dan pelan susunatur tapak perkhemahan di Hutan Simpan Ayer Hitam. Data dikumpulkan mengikut zon (tiga zon yang berbeza) menggunakan borang inventori sumber (RRIF) selama 12 minggu. Hasil kajian membuktikan bahawa zon 2 mempunyai skor purata tertinggi yang mewakili nilai sumber yang banyak . Zon yang lain iaitu Zon 1 dan Zon 3 dicadangkan untuk struktur dan kemudahan pembangunan. Cadangan reka bentuk dan pelan tapak perkhemahan disertakan. Oleh itu, kajian ini boleh memberikan maklumat yang berharga mengenai perancangan RPH dan pengurusan di atas Hutan Simpan Ayer Hitam, Puchong.

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APPROVAL SHEET

I certify that this research project report entitled "Recreation Resource Assessment for Forest Campground Planning in Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Puchong" by Nur Adelia binti Zahari had been examined and approved as a partial fulfilment of the requirements for the Degree, Bachelor of Park and Recreation Science, Faculty of Forestry, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Serdang.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | | Page |
|---|---|---|
| Abstr Abstr Ackno Appro Table List o | | ii iii iv v vi vii viii ix |
| CHAI | PTER | |
| 1 | Introduction | |
| | 1.1 Introduction 1.2 Recreation Development and Planning | 1 2 |
| | 1.3 Problem Statement | 2 3 4 |
| | 1.4 Objective | 4 |
| 2 | Literature Review | |
| | 2.1 Importance of Recreation Planning | 5 |
| | 2.2 Process of Recreation Planning | 6 |
| | 2.3 Recreation Resources | 8 10 |
| | 2.4 Recreation Resource Assessment2.5 Campground Planning and Design | 14 |
| | 10 | 14 |
| 3 | METHODOLOGY | 10 |
| | 3.1 Introduction 3.2 Study Area | 18 18 |
| | 3.3 Selection of Camp Area | 20 |
| | 3.4 Data Collection | 21 |
| | 3.4.1 Pre-fieldwork Preparation | 21 |
| | 3.4.2 On-Site Inventory Procedures | 22 |
| | 3.5 Data Analysis | 24 |
| | 3.6 Research Limitation | 25 |
| 4 | RESULTS | 26 |
| 5 | DISCUSSIONS | 28 |
| 6 | CONCLUSION | |
| Ū | 6.1 Conclusion | 39 |
| | 6.2 Recommendations | 40 |
| | | |
| | rences | 41 |
| Appe | ndices Appendix A: Existence Campground | 44 |
| | Appendix A: Existence Campground Appendix B: Proposed Campground Site | 45 |
| | Appendix C: Sample RRIF | 46 |
| Public | cation of the project-undertaking sheet | 48 |

LIST OF TABLES

| Table | | Page |
|-------|---|------|
| 1 | Attributes for Forest Campground Planning | 15 |
| 2 | Descriptions SWOT Analysis | 24 |
| 3 | Distribution Mean Score | 26 |
| 4 | SWOT Analysis of Each Zone | 27 |



LIST OF FIGURES

| Figures | | Page |
|---------|--|------|
| 1 | Frameworks of Park Planning | 7 |
| 2 | Basic Strategic Planning Frameworks | 7 |
| 3 | Flowchart of Recreation Resource Assessment Process | 11 |
| 4 | Suggested Data Analysis Procedure | 14 |
| 5 | Example of Addo Elephant National Park Layout Plan | 16 |
| 6 | Example of Delagoon Master Plan | 16 |
| 7 | Example of Designated Registration Office of KOA, America | 17 |
| 8 | Example of Designated Craft Lodge of Prince William Forest Park | 17 |
| 9 | Location Map of Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Puchong | 19 |
| 10 | Location Map of Proposed Study Site | 20 |
| 11 | Zoning of Assessment Area | 23 |
| 12 | Framework of Campground Planning in AHFR | 29 |
| 13 | Functional of Proposed Activities at campground area in AHFR | 30 |
| 14 | Flowchart of Proposed Structures and Facilities Development at AHFR | 31 |
| 15 | Functional Diagram of Proposed Layout Plan at Forest Campground AHFR | 32 |
| 16 | Master Plan View | 33 |
| 17 | Elevation View | 34 |
| 18 | Justification of Master Plan | 35 |

LIST OF GLOSSARY

Visual Quality Assessment – An aesthetical judgement of individual emotional, cognitive and perceptual based.

Quality Index – A total mean score of the values of the resources.

Likert Scale - A psychometric response scale primarily used in questionnaires to obtain participant's preferences or degree of agreement with a statement or set of statements.

RFI – **Recreation Feature Inventories**: developed by the Ministry of Forestry, British Columbia, Canada, Inventory Procedure Manual



CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Recreation is a part of human being where people always looking for something to reduce their stress or escapade from their daily routine. It cannot be separated from human being due to the significant recreational activities created as hobbies or interest. Mostly, outdoor recreational activities are carried out in the forest such as amenity forest and forest reserve.

Camping activity is very common with forest which people mostly preferred forest as suitable area for the activity. This is because the forests provide great ambient to the campers while camping and bring the authentic experiences to the campers as well. Campground is an essential facility for the campers to enjoy the beauty of the nature as well as other positive purposes. Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Puchong in which under management of Universiti Putra Malaysia is one of the reserve forests offered outdoor recreational activities such as camping in Malaysia.

The Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve is recognized and acknowledged by citizens of UPM, particularly the Faculty of Forestry, as an area designated for the purpose of education, research, and extension that plays important role as a place of reference for our staff and students (Paiman & Amat Ramsa, 2007). This forest reserve has management policies that established by the authorities which are SISFEC, UPM and Selangor State Forestry.

One of the management policies of Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve (AHFR) is to promote the use of forest resources by providing a multi-purpose outdoor recreational facilities and learning environment to the society (RPH 2006-2015). Based on the stated policy, this study (Recreation Resource Assessment for Forest Campground Development) will aid the authorities to develop outdoor recreational facilities (forest campground) in Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve, Puchong.

1.2 Recreation Development and Planning

Development is one of the processes involved in recreation resource planning. It is an essential process to create a final product that achieves the goal and objectives of the planning. Merriam's Webster Dictionary defines "development" as "the act or process of creating something over a period of time." Though, understanding of recreation resource planning is the major important in this research. It drives to minimize the cost of performance and eliminate unproductive efforts (Singh, 2011).

Basically, the recreation planning monitors "the types and amount of resources needed, where and how they are disseminated, and the timing of the allocations" (Marriot, 2010). Moreover, recreation planning can be defined as a wisely endeavour of recreation resources to give best satisfaction to all parties which are the authorities, the resources and the users as it encounters the current and upcoming desires. Thus, this is a practical approach that can be used to develop a good forest campground in AHFR.

For the forest campground planning, the study case act as an advantage to AHFR because this area has a unique biodiversity stages which are ecosystems (inland forest ecosystem and freshwater swamp forest ecosystem), species and genetic that advantage for forest campground development (Paiman & Amat Ramsa, 2007).

Recreation opportunities effectiveness and efficiency can be achieved through the maximum utilization of natural resources as it use in proper ways. Thus, the method of this study is focus on the activity of collecting information through assessment of existing resources that will be used for the planning of forest campground development in AHFR.

1.3 Problem Statement

Currently, Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve has basic recreation infrastructures. It is being used for education and, research purposes and development. One of the infrastructures in AHFR is forest campground. The current campground has its own facilities such as multi-purpose hall, kitchen, campsites, toilets, open green space and hut. The Faculty of Forestry was appointed to manage Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve as a research and education platform, by providing relevant infrastructures and facilities. However, from the perspective of recreation opportunities in AHFR, there is less emphasis in designing and developing the ideal forest campground.

Among the significant deficiencies is planning elements such as the use of building structures, design campground and supporting facilities, allocation of supporting facilities and quantity of facilities. Until today, an existing campground layout is still at traditional style and not multifunctional and show unclear philosophy; where it supposedly represents a whole visual of the management and operation of the good campground. These deficiencies may cause by short term planning, lack of knowledge in recreation planning or limited budget for development.

According professional and expert in the field of park planning and camp management, Mohd Hafizal (pers.comm.2016) mentioned that the identity of existing campground in Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve is not clear and more on providing facilities and space of accommodation. It is an ideal setting of a forest campground. Based on the highlighted issue, it can be concluded that the recreation resource planning of forest campground in AHFR must encompasses planning attributes of forest campground in order to enhance the standard of AHFR as an international research and development centre.

1.4 Objective

The objective of the study is to assess the characteristics of existent resource that to be used for ideal structures development and layout plan of forest new campground in Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve.

Planning attributes of forest campground is one of the major attentions of this research. The objective will answer the question "What is the best attributes that need to be taken into consideration in planning for campground in Ayer Hitam Forest Reserve?"

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