



**UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT JABATAN
PERIKANAN MALAYSIA
BERITA PERIKANAN HARI INI**

8 Januari 2021
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SINAR HARIAN • JUMAAT 8 JANUARI 2021

Sinar NEGERI



SH M/S 21 8/1/2021

Dua ekor penyu ditemui mati

FOTO: FOTO: FB JABATAN PERIKANAN NEGERI SEMBILAN

Spesies agar, karah berusia lebih 20 tahun

Oleh SYAMILAH ZULKIFLI

PORT DICKSON

Dua penyu spesies agar dan karah berusia lebih 20 tahun ditemui mati di perairan Port Dickson dalam tempoh kurang dua minggu.

Pengarah Jabatan Perikanan Negeri Sembilan, Halimi Abu Hanip berkata, penyu agar dianggarkan seberat 120 kilogram (kg) itu ditemui di Pantai Teluk Kemang, manakala penyu karah seberat 69kg ditemui di Batu 10 di sini.

"Seekor dijumpai pada 27 Disember lepas dan seekor lagi pada Selasa. Keadaan bangkai sudah reput teruk dan penyebab kematian tidak dapat dipastikan.

"Pemeriksaan mendapati tiada sebarang kesan kecederaan pada penyu berkenaan dan kita tidak pasti punca kematiannya," katanya kepada Sinar Harian pada Khamis.

Beliau berkata, reptilia ma-



Penyu berusia lebih 20 tahun ditemui mati di pantai Port Dickson.

rin terancam itu wujud dalam populasi yang sedikit di Negeri Sembilan dan penting untuk dipelihara.

Sehubungan itu, beliau mengingatkan orang ramai supaya prihatin dengan tidak mengganggu penyu itu terutama jika menemuinya sedang naik ke pantai untuk bertelur dan tidak mengambil telurinya.

"Sabit kesalahan atas perbuatan tidak bertanggungjawab itu boleh dikenakan denda maksi-

mum RM20,000 atau penjara maksimum 2 tahun atau keduanya di bawah Kaedah-Kaedah Perikanan (Penyu dan Telur Penyu) 1976 Negeri Sembilan dan Akta Perikanan 1985.

"Kita sangat berharap orang ramai yang menjumpai penyu mati atau cedera untuk hubungi talian 06-6472050 atau 06-6621089 atau menghantar mesej di laman rasmi Facebook Jabatan Perikanan Negeri Sembilan untuk tindakan lanjut," katanya.



PENYU AGAR

- Turut dikenali sebagai penyu hijau atau *green sea turtle*
- Berukuran kira-kira 1.2m panjang
- Berat boleh mencecah 270kg ke atas
- Musim bertelur antara April hingga September



PENYU KARAH

- Juga dikenali sebagai penyu sisik atau *hawksbill sea turtle*
- Berukuran antara 0.8 hingga 1m panjang
- Berat boleh mencecah 80kg
- Musim bertelur antara Mac hingga Jun

INFO

- Jangka hayat seekor penyu boleh mencecah antara 80 hingga 100 tahun
- Mampu bertelur antara 100 hingga 140 biji
- Penyu ambil masa hampir dua jam menggali lubang besar sebelum
- Anak penyu betina pulang semula ke pantai sama kira-kira 20 hingga 30 tahun selepas menetas

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KATEGORI LIPUTAN: POSITIF			NEGATIF		NEUTRAL		STAR METRO 1		
							8/1/2021		

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Safety net while at sea

Fishermen around the coastal areas of Selangor are urged to wear life jackets at all times, ensure their boats are in good condition and use modern gadgets that can provide accurate weather readings to reduce mishaps and fatalities. >2&3

Different approaches: Dars Ibrahim, (right) from Kampung Kelanang in Kuala Langat says the older generation of fishermen prefer to rely on experience to read the weather. Meanwhile, the younger generation prefer to use an app that can predict rough seas and strong winds.
— GRACE CHEN/
The Star

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STARMETRO, FRIDAY 8 JANUARY 2021



A fisherman repainting his boat at Pengkalan Tangkah. Regular maintenance is crucial to ensure the boats do not spring a leak. — Photos: GRACE CHEN/The Star



The jetties at Pengkalan Kanchong Laut are unsafe and need improvement.

SOS call to stay safe

Mishap in which elderly man lost his life a wake-up call for fishermen in Kuala Langkat

Stories by GRACE CHEN
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FISHERMEN in Kuala Langkat are in urgent need of help to improve their safety while at sea.

They are asking for additional technology aids that would provide more accurate weather readings and better safety equipment.

The call comes after an accident at sea took the life of a fisherman.

In October last year, angler Mohd Saufi Yusof found a man adrift in the middle of the Straits of Malacca.

The 29-year-old and four other friends were sailing back to the Sungai Mesok jetty when they heard cries for help and turned around to see a man bobbing among the waves.

The victim was promptly rescued but it would take the search and rescue (SAR) team another four days to find his father's body.

No one would know for sure what happened that day, said Sungai Mesok Fishermen Association (PNSM) chairman Jamaluddin Bual.

"At that time, the community was more preoccupied with the search for the drowned fisherman and efforts to send the injured victim to hospital.

"He had developed terrible blisters after being submerged in salt-water for over six hours.

"We were told that their boat had sunk after taking in water," said Jamaluddin.

As to the cause of the boat taking in water, he said one possible reason could be the fishing line had become too heavy thus pulling the boat under.

Some fishermen believe that the boat may have been moving in the same direction as the waves. As the stern dipped, incoming waves entered the vessel.

The rescued man who resides in Kampung Kundang, Tanjung Sepat in Selangor, has chosen not to speak about his ordeal to the press.

Safety lacking

Mohd Saufi's father, Yusof Shahardin, who is chairman of Amal Relief Malaysia (Arif) Sepang, the charity arm of Amanah, said the incident had left an indelible scar on the community.

"Cases of fishing boats capsizing and of fishermen drowning while at sea are rare in these parts.

"I have stayed here for 10 years and this is the first case," said the Batu Laut resident.

But the incident which required the coordinated efforts of the police, Fire and Rescue Department and Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency has raised the issue of how accidents of a similar nature can be prevented.

For one, the fishermen community at Sungai Mesok jetty admit that life vests which are often given to them free by the Fisheries Department are not always put to their intended use.

Jamaluddin said he had seen the vests being turned into pillows and nest lining for chickens to lay eggs.

"If he falls overboard, the engine will be cut off and the boat will stop, giving the victim time to climb back onto his vessel," said Jamaluddin.

The position of the buckles at the wearer's chest, the fishermen say, also puts the person at risk of getting snagged by nets.

The association has suggested a safety feature whereby a line attaches solo boat drivers to a kill switch in the motorboat engine.

"If he falls overboard, the engine will be cut off and the boat will stop, giving the victim time to climb back onto his vessel," said Jamaluddin.

The fishing community should also consider using two-way radio for more effective communication, said Yusof who is an amateur radio enthusiast.

"Everyone relies on cellphones now but there are some parts of the sea where there is no mobile network coverage.

"Also, emergency calls over radio communication can be heard by

nearby vessels that can go to the aid of distressed vessels quickly.

"A rescue boat deployed from land may take longer, depending on the location of the emergency, especially if it is low tide," he highlighted.

As an added security measure against theft or sabotage, CCTV monitoring with live feedback linked to a security control room should be considered at the fishermen's bases where fishing boats, some of which are worth hundreds of thousands of ringgit, are docked.

Revive programme

PNSM member Iswandi Basiran has expressed hope that the Gelombang Nelayan Nasional programme be revived.

Launched in Kuala Keroh, Terengganu in October 2017, the programme's goal was to have a trained squad at every fisherman's base to respond to everyday emergencies.

The plan was for each fishing base to send a representative.

Those who had attended the training would then train the others.

Iswandi managed to attend a basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course in Sabak Bernam, Selangor with 15 fishermen from other bases under the programme.

Since then, he said there had been no follow-up or further training at the local level.

Though fishermen have been warned to avoid going out to sea during bad weather, it was pointed out that the older generation preferred to rely on experience to read the weather.

There would be better accuracy, felt the younger generation, if they had access to an app that could predict rough seas and strong winds.

The general assumption is sea conditions in the narrow waterways of the Straits of Malacca are not as turbulent as the east coast of



Fishermen at the Sungai Mesok jetty say the current life vests are bulky and interfere with their movements.

the peninsula which faces South China Sea.

But Ong Lai, who is former chairman of Kanchong Laut Fishermen Association and has some 40 years of experience at sea, said he had experienced waves that could toss a boat so hard that someone seated at the stern would not be able to see the bow.

"When there are strong winds, there is nothing you can do but sit tight," said Ong.

Survival skills

It may come as a surprise but not all fishermen know how to swim.

Pengkalan Tangkah Fishermen Association (PNPT) deputy head Mohd Sharidan Mohd Yatim noted,

"Three quarters of our members don't know how to swim," he revealed.

Therefore, swimming lessons conducted in tandem with water rescue techniques would be useful.

The boat operator also pointed out that due to the unforgiving nature of saltwater, there is constant failure of beacon lights, which are fluorescent tubes used to

illuminate decks and lights to mark locations of fishing lines and drift nets.

Fishermen are known to wait until it is time for licence renewal inspection to have them replaced.

Meanwhile, unit vessels risk being run over at night.

On a more pressing note, PNPT head Mat Jani Masroh, who represents some 100 members, said ships arriving at Port Klang were tearing nets cast by fishermen in the area at a frequency of two times a month, causing them to suffer losses of no less than RM800 for each damaged net.

"The situation became apparent after authorities made it more stringent for ships to dock at the port due to the pandemic.

"As a result, many of these ships have had to line up and their presence has extended all the way to Morib, into the waterways where we once fished.

"We hope the port authorities can restore the movement of ships to its original limits at Ayer Itam so that the area from Pantai Kelang to Morib is once again free for the fishing community," said Mat Jani.