

INDONESIAN GOVERNMENT POLICY IN MAINTAINING ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION OF MARINE BIOTA THROUGH THE EXPORT PROHIBITION OF LOBSTER SHRIMP SEED

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Abstract: *The Indonesian government prohibits the export of Lobster seeds through the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 17/PERMEN-KP/2021 where lobster shrimp seeds are prohibited for export in order to preserve the environment for marine biota in Indonesia, this is related to the decreasing population of Lobster Shrimp in the wild caused by the capture of Lobster Shrimp seeds that are not properly controlled. This research is included in normative legal research using data contained in laws and regulations related to the protection of the environment, especially the problem of environmental protection of marine biota in Indonesia in terms of controlling the lobster shrimp population. The discussion of this research uses a qualitative method, namely by discussing from a legal perspective the background in which the regulation was issued, by comparing the opinions of experts in the environmental field. The results of this study show how important the export ban on lobster seeds is in order to preserve the environment for marine life and control the capture of lobster shrimp seeds so that they do not become extinct in the future, thus it is hoped that the preservation of marine life can be passed on to future generations.*

Keywords: *Government of Indonesia, Marine Biota, Exports, Lobster Shrimp Seeds*

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is the largest archipelagic country in the world with abundant potential and natural wealth as a gift from God Almighty. Two-thirds of the entire territory of Indonesia is sea and is one of the countries that has the longest coastline in the world. There are 17,508 islands in Indonesia with a coastline of 81,000 km² and an area of about 3.1 million km² (0.3 million km² of territorial waters and 2.8 million km² of archipelago waters) or 62% of its territorial area. (Fajari et al., 2016) Thus, It can be said that the State of Indonesia has abundant marine resources. Lobster Shrimp (*Panulirus* sp) or crayfish is one of the export commodities from the Indonesian fisheries sub-sector and is an important component for shrimp fisheries in Indonesia. This commodity needs to be further developed because the trade value and potential is quite high. Lobster ranks fourth for export commodities from the Crustaceans after the genera *Penaeus*, *Metapeaneus*, and *Macrobrachium* according to Statistics Indonesia records in 2005. (Junaidi et al., 2010)

The demand for lobster shrimp always increases sharply every year as shown by FAO and GLOBEFISH. (Junaidi et al., 2010) Lobster shrimp has a fairly wide distribution area that covers almost all rocky waters in the world. In Indonesia, there are several areas that have potential for lobster resources, namely West Sumatra, South Java, Bali & Nusa Tenggara, Sunda Shelf, Malacca Strait, and East Kalimantan, South/West Kalimantan, East Sumatra, North Java, South Sulawesi, North Sulawesi, Maluku and Papua. (Kanna, 2006) The increasing demand for both domestic and export markets has led to more intensive catching of lobster commodities regardless of size. The reality in the field is not only adult lobsters, international market interest in lobster seeds is also increasing. The price of seeds which initially ranged from Rp. 1,500-Rp. 2,500/head for a seed size of about 2-3 cm, continued to increase to Rp. 17,000-Rp. 20,000/head. Even more so at this time, it



is considered quite profitable for people who work as catchers and collectors of lobster shrimp seeds. (Stoker, 2018)

Exports of Indonesian lobster shrimp seeds from 2011-2014 experienced a fairly rapid increase. And of course it is very profitable for the country because it brings in a fairly large amount of foreign exchange. (Moffitt, 2016) However, the benefits obtained are not comparable if this valuable marine life becomes extinct from the Indonesian seas. The absence of restrictions on export quotas has led to massive exploitation of lobster seeds regardless of their population. Vietnam is one of the largest importing countries for lobster seed commodities from Indonesia. (C. M. Jones, 2020) These seeds will be cultivated in Vietnam, then re-exported when they are mature at a value that is many times higher. Lobster cultivation in Vietnam began in 1992 in Nha Trang City, Khanh Hoa Province and has spread to other provinces, especially in Phu Yen and Ninh Thuan Provinces and continues to grow today. (Mustafa, 2013)

China's demand for lobster, especially pearl type lobster, increased dramatically in the early 1980s. This has triggered an increase in lobster fishing in Vietnam. Until the early 1990s, as a result of fishing pressures and the lack of management regulations led to a decrease in the yield and size of the lobster caught. Because of this, Vietnamese fishermen took the initiative to keep small lobster catches up to market size. with temporary methods and equipment and showed that lobsters can grow well in cages placed in coastal bottom waters. After the use of aquaculture technology, Vietnamese lobster production has increased since 1992 and reached its peak in 2006, but decreased significantly in 2007 due to milk disease, red body disease and blackgill disease. at the end of 2006. (Huong, L.L., Thi, V.L., Thai, T.H., Jones, C. et al., 2014) Due to this disease, the quality and quantity of lobster seeds in Vietnam continued to decline, so for the sake of the sustainability of lobster production which is one of the important commodities, Vietnam began to seek supplies of lobster seeds from neighboring countries, including Indonesia. (Petersen & Jones, 2020)

The tantalizing price offered by Vietnam for this commodity has motivated Indonesian fishermen to seek sustenance from lobster seeds provided by nature for free. With this method, Vietnam has managed to maintain its title as the largest exporter of lobster shrimp products.

If viewed from the abundance of resources owned by Indonesia, Indonesia should be the largest lobster exporter in the world. However, because fishing activities occur en masse and uncontrolled and there is no limit to the export of lobster seeds, it has threatened the population of marine biota with high economic value. (Herrnkind WF, 1994) If these marine biota are caught continuously and excessively without giving them the opportunity to develop, then of course their presence in nature will also decrease. In addition, Indonesia does not yet have lobster hatchery technology and only relies on seeds from the wild.

To prevent unwanted things from happening in the future and as a form of realization of the protection of marine life, in 2015, Indonesia through the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries under the leadership of Minister Susi Pudjiastuti issued Permen-KP No.1 of 2015 concerning lobster catching. Where in it regulates the size of lobsters that may be exported, as well as a prohibition on exporting lobsters that are laying eggs on the grounds that these marine animal species have time to reproduce before being caught and traded. And in 2021 the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries under the leadership Mr. Sakti Wahyu Trenggono, who banned the export of lobster shrimp seeds, was followed up by issuing the Ministerial Regulation-KP No. 17 of 2021 which contains almost the same contents, so that it is hoped that it will maintain the population of lobster shrimp in Indonesian seas and can increase the value of Indonesian lobster exports as a source of foreign exchange.

METHODOLOGY

In normative legal research, in the context of policies regarding the prohibition of the export of lobster shrimp seeds, there are still contradictions between the legal rules regarding the prohibition of the export of lobster shrimp seeds, this is evidenced by the differences in policies on the export ban on lobster seeds, when officials from the Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Affairs were led by Mr. Edhy Prabowo, allowing exporters to export lobster shrimp seeds with the excuse of increasing



the welfare of fishermen who catch lobster seeds. On the other hand, when the official of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries was held by Mrs. Susi Pujiastuti and currently held by Mr. Sakti Wahyu Trenggono, the export of lobster shrimp seeds was prohibited in order to maintain environmental sustainability of marine biota to be passed on to future generations.

After all the data has been collected, the data is edited and coded for further analysis. The analysis is used to reduce the data to a story and its interpretation. (Hasan, 2020) The data is analyzed qualitatively, that is, it is selected according to the quality of secondary data that is in accordance with the topic of the problem. The essence of this research is a critical review of the relevant information to provide a solid foundation for the concept and to highlight the relevance of various principles and theories to the issue raised, namely the protection of the environment for marine biota in relation to the export ban on lobster shrimp fry.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Principles of Sustainable Development in Marine and Fishery Resources

The principle of sustainable development has been used as a concept that forms the basis of human activities, especially between humans and nature, in this case the protection and management of the environment or natural resources. In the Our Common Future report issued by the World Commission on Environment Development (WCED) in 1987, the principle of sustainable development is defined as “development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs”. (Keeble, 1988) The principle of sustainable development, departs from the definition above, which is then reflected in other principles in Environmental Law, namely the principles of intragenerational justice and intergenerational justice. Intragenerational justice is reflected in the section on “development that meets the needs of the present...” which means that people in one generation have the right to utilize natural resources and enjoy a clean and healthy environment, (Scharfstein & Gaurf, 2013) while the principle of intergenerational justice is reflected in the section on intergenerational justice. “...without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs” which refers to the formulation at the international conference in Canberra on November 13-16, 1994 (Fenner Conference on the Environment), which means that the next generation has equal opportunities in terms of physical, ecological and social qualities. , economic, and social. The idea was then adopted and used as the basis for other international conferences to address various social, economic, and environmental issues.

At the national level, the adoption of the principle of sustainable development is applied to the protection and management of the environment in Indonesia, beginning with the inclusion of the term environmentally sound development in environmental management activities in Law Number 4 of 1982 concerning Basic Provisions for Environmental Management. That one of the objectives of environmental management is the implementation of environmentally sound development for the benefit of present and future generations. Law No. 4/1982 uses the term environmentally sound development, which is defined as a conscious and planned effort to use and manage resources wisely in sustainable development to improve the quality of life. Furthermore, Law Number 23 of 1997 concerning Basic Provisions for Environmental Management in lieu of Law no. 4/1982, has also included sustainable development as a goal of environmental management, namely realizing sustainable development with an environmental perspective in the context of developing Indonesian people as a whole and developing Indonesian people who have faith and fear of God Almighty. Sustainable development with an environmental perspective is defined as a conscious and planned effort, which integrates the environment, including environmental resources, into the development process to ensure the ability, welfare, and quality of life of present and future generations.

The above description shows that Indonesia has adopted the principle of sustainable development since the enactment of the Environmental Law. Therefore, every human activity in terms of utilizing natural resources should be based on the principle of sustainable development. Indonesia as an archipelagic country, most of which consists of the sea, has a very large and diverse fishery potential that can be utilized for the future of the nation, as the backbone of national development. Therefore, in Law no. 31 of 2004 jo. Law No. 45 of 2009 concerning Fisheries (Law on



Fisheries), the principle of sustainable development is adopted as the principle of fisheries management, where protection and management must be based on sustainable development that is carried out in a planned manner and is able to increase the prosperity and welfare of the people by prioritizing the preservation of environmental functions for the present and future. (Childress MJ, 2006)

In 2013-2014, Indonesia exported lobster seeds massively to Vietnam by 10.3 tons to 24.6 tons. (Rahmah, 2016) Since Vietnam does not have many waters that are ideal for lobster seed habitat, Vietnam is looking for a supply of seeds lobster in Indonesia, to cultivate the seeds themselves until they are large for re-export. The high level of demand for lobster seed exports will eventually lead to a massive increase in lobster seed capture in Indonesia.

In 2013 there were several types of lobster with an endangered status and need to be considered in Indonesia, namely *panulirus homarus*, *panulirus longipes*, *panulirus ornatus*, *panulirus penicillatus*, *panulirus polyphagus*, *panulirus versicolor*. (Ubaidillah Rosichon et. al., 2013) In the right to capture marine and fishery resources, there is also an obligation to carry out conservation in a responsible manner in such a way as to ensure the conservation and effective management of aquatic living resources. (Maskur, 2002)

Potential Impact of Lobster Seed Exports on the Sustainability of Marine and Fishery Resources

One of the considerations for the enactment of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 12 of 2020 is to increase the welfare, investment and foreign exchange of the country. The government considers that by reviving the lobster shrimp seed catching business, which was previously prohibited, it can provide benefits to fishermen or business actors. However, these benefits do not have a significant impact on fishermen or small-scale business actors because the distribution of economic benefits is not evenly distributed and tends to be enjoyed by companies or large-scale business actors. (Setiawan, 2021)

According to the Indonesian Traditional Fishermen Association (KNTI), the lobster shrimp business currently involves various business actors, and compared to large companies or business actors, fishermen or small cultivators are still experiencing complex structural problems ranging from access to fishing areas, production equipment, fuel, capital, technology, knowledge and expertise, to marketing. In addition, the Decree of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries No. 53/KEP-DJPT/2020 stipulates the lowest benchmark price for lobster seeds is Rp. 5,000, - to Rp. 10,000, - per head. Furthermore, based on the results of a survey conducted by Walhi, exporters can sell their catch of lobster seeds for IDR 180,000 per head. (Suhadi, 2021)

With the export policy, it is hoped that the results of free trade in the form of financial benefits will eventually trickle down and be redistributed equally to all members of society. However, in the context of the lobster seed export permit policy, through the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 12 of 2020, it turns out that this effect does not bring significant benefits for fishermen or small business actors. Moreover, such a growth orientation is primarily aimed at creating markets and wealth for the largest transnational corporations and the richest and most elite groups in developing countries. In fact, compared to large companies, fishermen or small business actors depend the most on marine and fishery resources for their lives. Based on research conducted by the Indonesian Institute of Sciences (LIPI) using data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) as quoted by KNTI, 63.47% of the poor are coastal communities and there are 7.87 million poor fishermen spread over 10,600 villages. coastal areas with low levels of education. Instead of providing fishermen with profits from the catch of lobster seeds, this policy is actually more profitable for exporters. In accordance with the principle of sustainable development that requires the realization of justice in one generation, the Government should encourage small fishermen to optimize lobster cultivation by providing maximum access to knowledge, technology, and practices that pay attention to environmental aspects, so that apart from having a higher bargaining price, utilization is also beneficial. This can be done while preserving the lobster itself. (Thangaraja & Radhakrishnan, 2012)

In addition to improving people's welfare and foreign exchange, the implementation of lobster seed export permits through Ministerial Decree No. KP. 12/2020 also aims to maintain the sustainability



of the availability of fishery resources, which is then tried to be realized through the requirements for the success of sustainable harvests of lobster cultivation that are applied to the export of lobster seeds. The mechanism is claimed to be a way that can be done to take the economic benefits of lobster seed commodities without eliminating the sustainability factor. However, lobster cultivation activities in Indonesia are currently not optimal, where only 3.09% of lobster production in Indonesia is sourced from aquaculture, while the remaining 96.91% is sourced from capture fisheries. (Yunianto, 2019) This can not be separated from explanation that lobsters are included in the germplasm category which cannot be artificially spawned by humans, so that if taken continuously it will result in damage to marine life, especially lobster shrimp, (Thangaraja & Radhakrishnan, 2012) which will become extinct in the wild. In addition, the supply of lobster seeds for cultivation is still sourced from capture in the wild. Even though the availability of lobster seeds in the wild is very dependent on environmental conditions, for example global climate change which causes fluctuations in climatic conditions to become unpredictable will affect fluctuations in water conditions where it is suspected that this can have an impact on the availability of lobster seeds in the waters. (Erlania et al., 2014) In addition, fishermen still prefer to capture lobster seeds rather than lobster cultivation because catching lobster seeds is considered easier and faster to generate profits (Furqan et al., 2018) meaning, if the demand for lobster seed exports continues to increase, fishing and export activities will continue to increase. lobster seeds can have a negative impact on the sustainability of lobster resources. This is because the current cultivation conditions are not optimal and the availability of lobster seeds in nature is unpredictable, plus there is no accurate data on seed potential, both distribution, season, and catch fluctuations. (Erlania et al., 2017)

The above matters should be taken into account by the Government before enacting Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No.12 of 2020. to ensure the sustainability of lobster shrimp resources. What should be done is to maintain the availability of lobster shrimp resources, as well as to emphasize policies to conduct research in order to realize optimal lobster shrimp cultivation to a level that is able to ensure the availability of lobster in a sustainable and continuous manner and try to avoid the extinction of lobster shrimp in Indonesian marine waters.

Theorizing about fisheries biology, massive exploitation of lobster seeds and chicks will suppress adult lobster populations to grow, develop, and reproduce faster than normal conditions. Lobsters will mature gonads when they are juveniles or have not yet reached their adult size, with low egg production capacity. Not surprisingly, when we observe lobsters caught by fishermen, we find many small female lobsters that have laid eggs or are known as Berried Females. In the long term, this condition will lead to low recruitment or addition of young lobsters in the waters.

Legal Protection of the Marine Biota Environment By Banning the Export of Lobster Shrimp Seeds

Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 1 of 2015 was enacted on January 6, 2015 in Jakarta by Minister Susi Pudjiastuti. And promulgated on January 7, 2015 by the Minister of Law and Human Rights of the Republic of Indonesia Yasonna H. Laoly. The existence and availability of lobster (*Panulirus* sp) has experienced a decline in population, so it is necessary to limit the capture of it by stipulating a Regulation of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries concerning Lobster Catching (*Panulirus* spp.) (Fajari et al., 2016). In accordance with the Ministerial Regulation, everyone, both individuals and corporations, are prohibited from catching egg-laying lobsters. Lobster laying eggs can incubate about 50,000 to 460,000 eggs depending on the size of the lobster. The price of egg-laying lobster is not too expensive, but if it is left to hatch in the sea, it will increase the number of lobster chicks that can be cultivated and can maintain its sustainability in the wild. (Shields, 2011) In addition to egg-laying lobsters, regulations are also applied for the size of lobsters that can be caught, namely those with a carapace length of more than 8cm. The size of 8 cm (carapace length) is calculated along the left and right arrows. So far, the seeds sold have a total size of 2-3 cm and weigh approximately 50 grams. The price difference between these two sizes is very large, although currently Indonesia is not financially disadvantaged, but the export of lobster seeds in the future will cause Indonesia to lose one of the high-value export



commodities. (González & Wehrtmann, 2011) In accordance with the contents of the Ministerial Regulation, every person who catches a lobster that lays eggs or has a carapace length of less than 8 cm and is alive, is required to release it back into the sea. Meanwhile, for those caught dead, they are required to record and report it to the Director General through the head of the base port as stated in the Fishing Permit. All points in this regulation have come into effect as of the date this Ministerial Regulation was promulgated, namely January 7, 2015.

Formation of Permen-KP No. 1 of 2015, is a testament to the desire of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, Susi Pudjiastuti, to preserve lobster resources which she often conveys on several occasions. In general, this legislation stipulates a prohibition for any person or corporation to catch lobsters under a predetermined size and which are in spawning conditions. In order to achieve the aims and objectives of this regulation, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries and all its staff held socialization in various regions. This socialization was carried out before and after the issuance of Permen-KP Number 1 of 2015 in areas that have lobster resources.

Measures to protect the sustainability of marine resources so that stocks remain safe for the long term are carried out by the Government through the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries by issuing Ministerial Decree No. KP. 1/2015 is an ecosystem-based approach that in the long term will make an important contribution to increasing capture fisheries production commodities in Indonesia. Requiring the release of marine species that are in spawning conditions and enforcing catchable sizes will ensure that these species have reproduced at least once to ensure the sustainability of the resource. (Giddens, 2015).

After socialization was carried out throughout Indonesia, there were pros and cons in the community as a response to this policy. However, in the midst of emerging contra, the Non Government Organization (NGO) World Wide Fund (WWF) really appreciates and supports the big breakthrough of the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries (Minister of KP), Susi Pudjiastuti, to preserve the sustainability of coastal fisheries resources in Indonesia.

In line with WWF, the Head of the Fish Quarantine, Quality Control and Safety of Fishery Products (BKIPM) also fully supports law enforcement from the implementation of Ministerial Regulation No. 1/2015 at the entrance and exit gates spread throughout Indonesia through Technical Implementation Units throughout Indonesia. With 46 Technical Implementation Units (UPT) spread across airports, ports and cross-border posts throughout Indonesia, BKIPM has a strategic role and position as the foremost defense guard in supervising the traffic of fishery products in and out of and between areas within the territory of the Republic of Indonesia. . BKIPM's support can be seen from the rejection of egg-laying lobster exports. Throughout the January 2015 period, hundreds of export and domestic refusals have been recorded, consisting of crabs and lobsters laying eggs. Every day on average 10-20 shipments are rejected for domestic entry and 5-7 shipments for exports. On January 29, 2015, 5 (five) shipments of egg-laying lobster exports were thwarted by several companies to China. (Administrator, 2015a).

Even though there are pros and cons, the implementation of the Ministerial Regulation must continue to be carried out for the common good. In some areas the implementation of the Ministerial Regulation has started to run well. For example, in Padang, on January 22, 2015, through a re-examination or physical check at the Padang KIPM Class I Station, Fish Quarantine officers in Padang managed to thwart an attempt to send 4 lobsters (*Panulirus* sp) laying eggs and weighing less than 200 g as many as 37 tails. 31 In accordance with the KP Ministerial Regulation, 2 lobsters (*Panulirus* sp) lay eggs and 2 tails weighing under 200 g were released in the sea around Bungus Padang. Meanwhile, as many as 2 lobsters (*Panulirus* sp) lay eggs and 35 tails weighing under 200 grams were released in the sea around Ketaping Padang. (Administrator, 2015c).

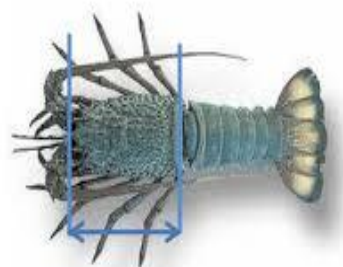
The implementation of Permen Kp was also shown by PT. ASI Pudji Astuti, who was the engine of Mrs. Susi's lobster fishery business for 30 years, although she has now been released since serving as Minister. In order to follow up Permen KP No. 01 of 2015, on January 29, 2015 PT. ASI Pudji Astuti, who was represented by his manager Mr. Rustam, together with the fish quarantine wilker Simeulue, Andrie Setiawan, A.Md and Swisman, A.Md, released 85 lobsters measuring under 200 grams in the waters of Sevelak Island or better known as Pulau Sevelak. Susi by the local

community. (Administrator, 2015b).

Since being ratified by the Minister of Law and Human Rights of the Republic of Indonesia on January 7 2015, Permen-KP No. 1 of 2015 began to be implemented by applying the points of the rules contained therein. Lobster laying eggs and lobsters with sizes below the candy requirements (lobster seeds) are automatically excluded from fishing activities carried out by fishermen. In its implementation, Permen-KP No. 1 of 2015 has a direct impact on the decline in export volume of lobster seeds. It is proven that from 2014 to 2015 the export volume of Indonesian lobster seeds has decreased significantly.

After the enactment of Permen-KP No.1 of 2015, the export volume of Indonesian lobster seeds decreased significantly in 2015. With an export volume of 27,431 kg in 2014 and 3,731 kg in 2015, the decline reached 86%. So it can be said that the Ministerial Regulation has been running effectively by giving a direct impact on the export of lobster seed commodity. The implementation of the policy on the export ban on lobster seeds experienced ups and downs during the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries held by Mrs. Susi Pujiastuti, the export of lobster shrimp seeds was prohibited by Regulation of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries No. 1 of 2015 for reasons of protection against environmental damage to marine biota so that lobster shrimp do not become extinct in Indonesian seas. And then in the era of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries in the position of Mr. Edhy Prabowo, he took the policy of allowing the export of lobster shrimp seeds by issuing the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 12 of 2020 with the consideration of increasing the welfare of fishermen who catch lobster shrimp seeds, because with the prohibition of lobster shrimp seeds, fishermen who catch lobster shrimp seeds lose their livelihoods so it is very detrimental to fishermen who catch lobster shrimp seeds. In the current era, Mr. Sakti Wahyu Trenggono is the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries who has taken the policy of banning the export of shrimp seeds by issuing the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 17/Permen-KP/2021 concerning Management of Lobster (*Panulirus spp*), Crab (*Scylla spp*), and Crab (*Portunus spp*) in the Territory of the Republic of Indonesia. In this ministerial regulation it is prohibited to export lobster shrimp seeds, and it is allowed to export adult lobster shrimp with a size of more than 8 cm in accordance with the provisions stipulated by this ministerial regulation.

Pictures of shrimp seeds and shrimp sizes that can be exported



Gambar Pengukuran lobster

CONCLUSION

The issuance of a policy regarding the export ban on lobster seeds as outlined in the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 17/PERMEN-KP/2021, has a direct impact on the export volume of Indonesian lobster seeds which has decreased significantly. The existence of stipulations on catch size limits becomes a reference for fishermen in determining the size of lobsters that can be caught and traded for the international market. The Decree of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries provides a breath of fresh air for environmentalists, although it raises pro and contra opinions. However, this decision must be carried out, because in the future the losses will not only be experienced by the fishermen themselves but also for Indonesia as a whole, both socially and

economically. As it is known that many fishermen depend on lobster for their fate, if this commodity becomes extinct, unemployment will arise. And this will certainly affect economic stability, especially for lobster-producing areas.

In this study the author also concludes that the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries Regulation No. 17 of 2021 has been running effectively. The aim of reducing the export volume of lobster seeds as stated in the policy has shown tangible results as evidenced by the significant decline in Indonesia's lobster seed exports after the enactment of the ministerial regulation. This shows that the Indonesian government's policy is committed to legal protection to preserve the environment, especially marine life.

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