



DEBUNKING MISINFORMATION

that justifies the degazettement
of Kuala Langat North
Forest Reserve



The purpose of this infographic is to debunk these misconceptions of the official reasons given by MB Selangor & Selangor Forestry Department



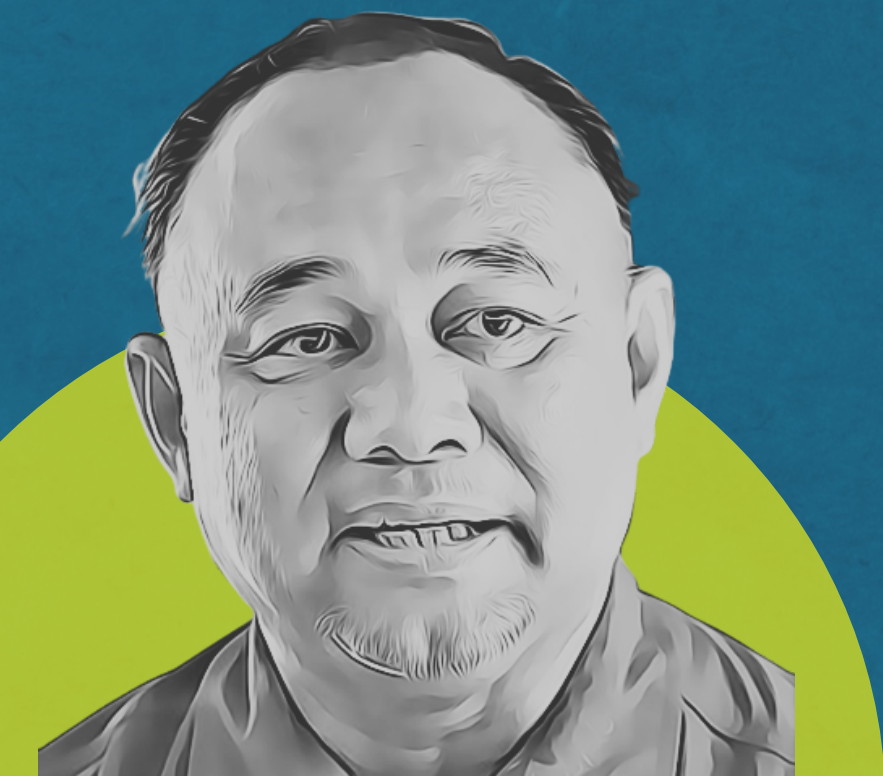
What are they saying?

DEBUNKED



“40% of the forest has degraded in quality due to encroachments and fires”

YB Amirudin Shari
Menteri Besar Selangor



“The replanted trees belonged to species that grew fast and were good for greening purposes. But they are not high-quality species that would yield economic benefits”

Datuk Ahmad Fadzil Abdul Majid
Director Selangor Forestry Department



FACT #1

The degraded area that was affected by the earlier fires is now recovering well, thanks to the successful community-based forestry management activities by Orang Asli and local communities

Prior to 2016, fires burnt a large area of the forest. However, at the request of the State Government, in 2015, rapid action was undertaken by the local Orang Asli community (Friends of Kuala Langat North Peat Swamp Forest) supported by the State Forest Department, NGOs and other partners to prevent fires and restore the forest.



More than 300 hectares of the forest area impacted by fire have recovered well with the regrowth of tall forest or planting of trees by the Orang Asli community

2014

2020



- 10,000 trees planted
- Blocked drainage canals
- Supported natural forest regeneration
- Fire patrolling & monitoring

+

300 hectares of the degraded forest area is now recovering well

+

No significant fires were burnt in the degazetted area since 2016

+

98% of the degazetted area has forest cover and 50% consist of tall trees

~ RM2.2 million already spent on fire prevention infrastructure in KLNFR

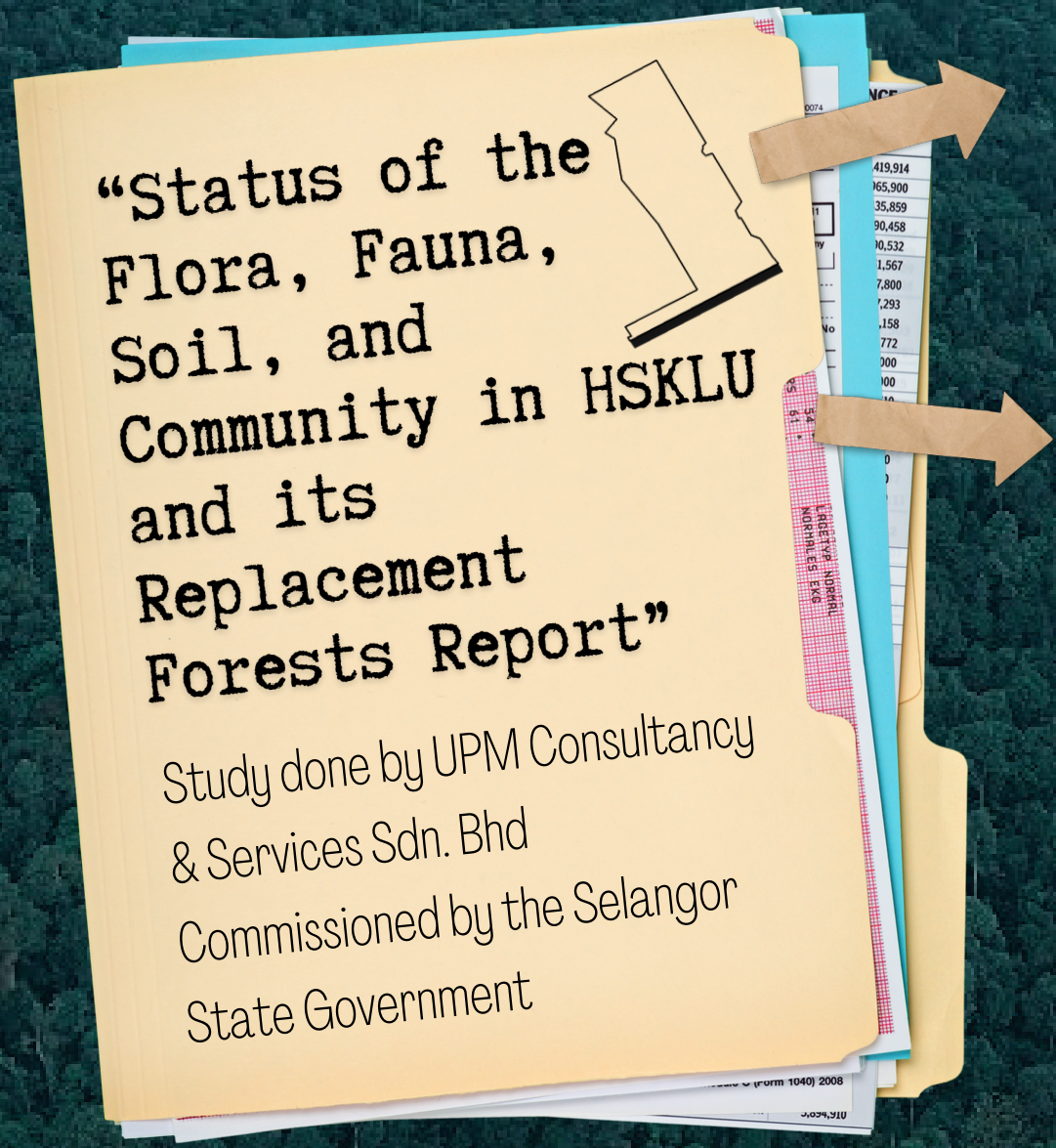
Peninsular Malaysia Forestry Department's Wetlands Forest Management principal assistant director Harry Yong called the proposed degazettement a “waste of public funds”





FACT #2

KLNFR is a High Conservation Value (HCV) area, according to a study commissioned by Selangor state government.



Presented to the public

Townhall meeting
29 September 2020



Key findings

Endemic flora species:

- Setawar (*Cheloctus globosus*)
- Kandis (*Garcinia mangayi*)
- Penarahan (*Knema plumose*)

Endangered fauna species

- Sunda Pangolin (*Manis javanica*)
- White-handed Gibbon (*Hylobates lar*)

KLNFR has a diverse amount of flora and fauna, despite its degradation over time. Having a lower number of species that supposedly yield lower economic benefits as compared to its replacement forests, is not a justifiable reason to convert the forest into development.

124 + 123

FLORA SPECIES

FAUNA SPECIES

Climate Emergency

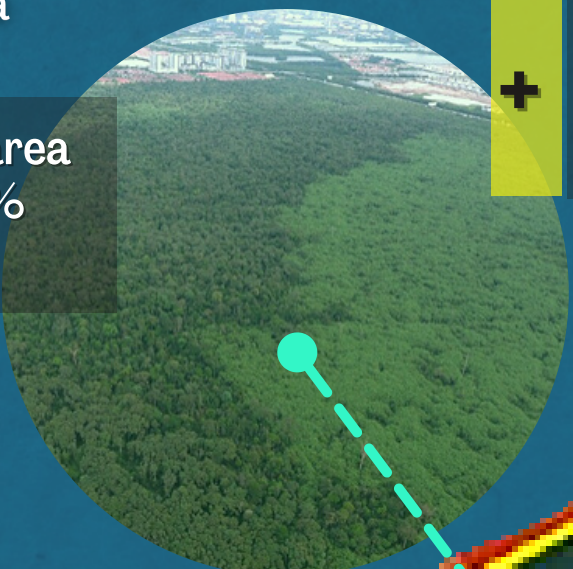
We should be aiming to gazette and maintain ALL existing forests, to mitigate the impacts of the climate crisis.



LOKASI PEWARTAAN KELUAR

Hutan Simpan Kuala Langat Utara

+ 98% of the degazetted area has forest cover and 50% consist of tall trees



+ KLNFR Rehabilitation by Orang Asli at previously burnt area




+ Forest adjacent to BOH Plantation



+ Forest nearby KOA Busut Baru



Petunjuk

-  Kawasan nyahwarta HSKLU ± 536.70 ha
-  Kawasan baki HSKLU ± 455.20 ha
-  KOA Busut baru ± 362.75 ha



Sumber : Jabatan Perhutanan Negeri Selangor



FACT #3

The argument to degazette KLNFR by replacing it with another equivalent or better-quality forests has totally missed the point

KLNFR'S BIODIVERSITY IS IRREPLACEABLE

Hutan Simpan Buloh Telor Barat & Timur

208.98 ha

Jenis Hutan Bukit

Hutan Simpan Sungai Panjang

308.62ha

Jenis Hutan Paya Gambut

Hutan Simpan Bukit Broga

63.88ha

Jenis Hutan Bukit

assessment on peatlands, biodiversity and climate change main report

- Peatlands are the most efficient terrestrial carbon-storing ecosystem
- Degradation of peatlands is a major growing source of greenhouse gas emissions.



Conservation, restoration and wise use of peatlands are essential and cost-effective measures for long term climate change mitigation and adaptation.



FACT #4

The proposed mixed development is **NOT** the way to address peat fires

The scientific truth

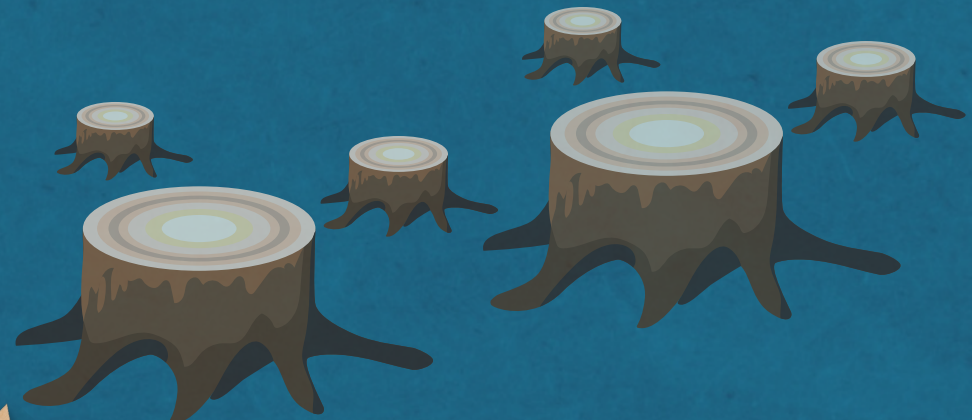
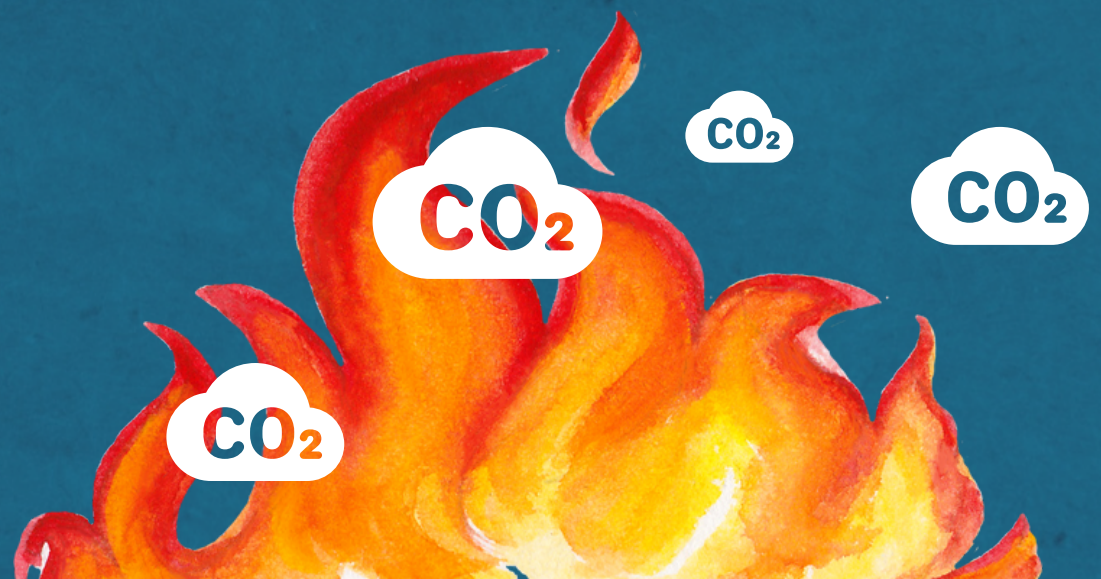
According to the Global Environment Centre, the proposed mixed development in the area does not help and will only exacerbate the situation and lead to loss of habitat and wild species. Community-based conservation and rehabilitation are essential, sustainable and cost-effective measures to control peat fires.

Degazettement of KLNFR

Increase soil subsidence and flood risk in the area



Worsening climate crisis





FACT #5



The reduced size of the degazettement from the earlier proposal does not help but will likely exacerbate the human wildlife conflicts



184 cases of human wildlife conflicts at KLNFR

According to Perhilitan, the cases are significantly higher compared to its replacement forests.



UPM Consultancy & Services Sdn. Bhd

Further fragmentation of KLNFR will intensify the human-wildlife conflicts in the area because it means that people and the various wildlife will have to occupy and share the reduced amount of forest area.



KES ADUAN KONFLIK HIDUPAN LIAR

Spesies	HSKLU	Sungai Karang	Ampang Pechah
Kera	155	3	13
Babi Hutan	12	1	4
Beruk	5	-	1
Musang Pandan	4	-	1
Burung Hantu	3	-	-
Buaya	3	-	-
Burung Helang	1	-	-
Kelawar	1	-	1
Beruang	-	9	-
Jumlah	184	13	20

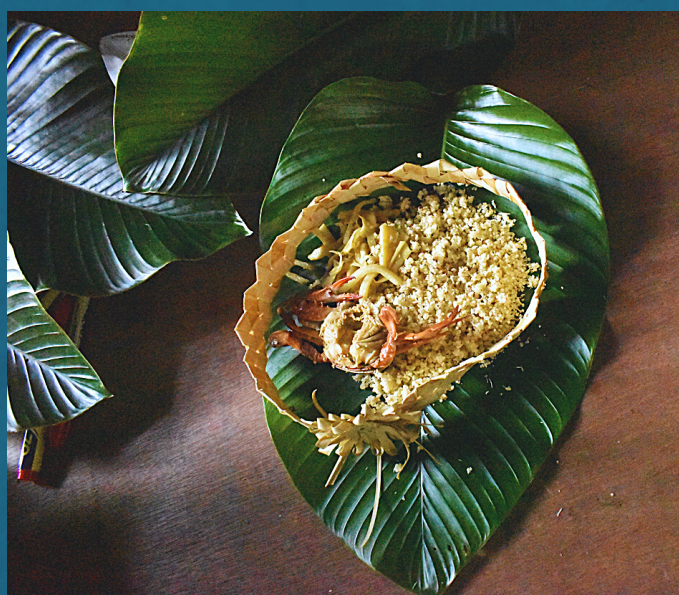
Sumber : PERHILITAN

- dalam lingkungan 5 km daripada kawasan kajian, kes aduan konflik hidupan telah banyak berlaku di pinggir HSKLU (sebanyak 184 kes) berbanding dengan pinggir SK (13 kes) dan Ampang Pechah (20 kes)
- Di HSKLU, majoriti kes (84.2%) yang berlaku adalah berpunca daripada Kera, diikuti dengan Babi Hutan (6.5%) dan Beruk (2.7%).
- Kes aduan Kera juga adalah paling kerap berlaku di Ampang Pechah manakala kes aduan gangguan **Beruang** adalah lebih kerap berlaku di kawasan berdekatan CTG Sungai Karang.



FACT #6

The Temuan Orang Asli in that area rely on the forest to preserve their culture and identity



Traditional Food

Craft making as a source of income





References

PSHKLU Press Statement - 7th September 2021

<https://selamatkanhsklu.carrd.co/>



Global Environment Centre (GEC) - HELP SAVE KUALA LANGAT NORTH FOREST RESERVE

<https://www.gec.org.my/index.cfm?&menuid=443>

Global Environment Centre (GEC) - Save KLNFR: Overview Map Changes

<https://youtu.be/yldYHaj6K94>

Global Environment Centre (GEC) - Assessment on Peatlands, Biodiversity and Climate Change

<https://www.gec.org.my/index.cfm?&menuid=48&parentid=287>

Pictures of the peatland restoration efforts

Sahabat Gambut Asli Temuan (SGAT) & GEC

“Status of the Flora, Fauna, Soil, and Community in HSKLU and its Replacement Forests Report” by UPM Consultancy & Services Sdn. Bhd

Pictures of report released Sep 2020 shared by GEC

MalayMail - The how and why behind Selangor’s plan to degazette Kuala Langat North Forest Reserve

<https://www.malaymail.com/news/malaysia/2021/05/20/the-how-and-why-behind-selangors-plan-to-degazette-kuala-langat-north-fores/1975477>