

LOCAL WISDOM IN THE MANAGEMENT OF THE CUSTOMARY FOREST LARANGAN MUDE AYEK TEBAT BENAWA: A CASE STUDY OF PENJALANG VILLAGE, PAGARALAM CITY

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The research aims to describe the local wisdom of Tebat Benawa indigenous people in managing the customary forest of Larangan Mude Ayek Tebat Benawa. The data were analyzed using Cultural Ecology theory as the foundation of the research. Data were collected through non-participant observation and in-depth interviews. This research uses descriptive qualitative research method as the application of the approach to produce descriptive information of written or spoken words about the observed phenomena. The research location is in Penjalang Village, Pagaralam City, where researchers extract information from the Tebat Benawa indigenous community. This research produces information in the management of the customary forest of Larangan Mude Ayek Tebat Benawa there is local wisdom that indigenous peoples have in managing customary forests, this can be seen from the management of customary forests carried out by the Tebat Benawa indigenous people to maintain the forest to remain sustainable. The local wisdom of the indigenous people is shown in the things that the Tebat Benawa indigenous people do in managing the customary forest, one of which is the community's belief in the myths that develop, besides that it is also seen in the process of cutting down trees that must first conduct a Customary Deliberation. The Tebat Benawa customary forest is used as a source of clean water springs, a source of herbal medicine, and as an area prohibited from hunting, besides that, in the management there is a foster tree program that the indigenous people make with the aim of protecting the customary forest area, besides that there is a ban on clearing plantation land and utilizing forest areas as special interest ecotourism to improve the economy of the Tebat Benawa indigenous people through social forestry businesses. **Keywords: Local wisdom, Management, Indigenous people, Customary forest.**