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Weekly Fire Situation Info

September 24, 2002

List of Information:

- Current Fire Danger Rating Index (1-23 September 2002) of six locations on East Kalimantan: Nunukan, Tanjung Selor, Tanjung Redeb, Tarakan, Samarinda and Balikpapan (figure 1-6)
- Average Fire Danger Rating Index from the six locations on East Kalimantan (figure 7 ; please note that these six locations are along the coast of East Kalimantan and therefore not representative for East Kalimantan inland area).
- Current Fire Danger Rating Index of Samarinda & Balikpapan compared to 1978-2000 and 1997 - 1998 (El Nino), based on monthly display (figure 8).
- Hotspot Map of East Kalimantan Detected by NOAA-AVHRR on 18-23 September 2002 (figure 9).
- Hotspot Coordinate Table of East Kalimantan (Table 3).
- Regional Surface Winds and Observed Smoke Haze/Hot Spots over Cloud-free Areas since 17-23 September 2002 (figure 10).
- Weather prediction for the next five days of five locations on East Kalimantan (Tanjung Selor, Tanjung Redeb, Tarakan, Samarinda and Balikpapan ; figure 11-15).
- Visibility Map : 17-23 September 2002 (figure 16)
- Temperature Map : 17-23 September 2002 (figure 17)
- Relative Humidity Map: 17-23 September 2002 (figure 18)
- Days since rain Map : 17-23 September 2002 (figure 19)
- Article :
- Summary Table of Current Weekly Fire Situation Information (Table 1)
- Last Week Summary Table of Weekly Fire Situation Information on September 17, 2002 (Table 2)
- List of Internet sites which contains fire related information (Table 4)
- Brief information from **Provincial Technical Implementation Unit of Forest and Land Fire Control (UPTD. PKHL)**

Summary

According to the latest information from BMG Balikpapan, the Fire Danger Rating Index on 23 September 2002 for six locations in East Kalimantan was as follows:

Samarinda was on the **Extreme** fire danger level, **Tanjung Redeb** was **High**, **Balikpapan** was **Moderate level** meanwhile Tarakan, Nunukan and Tanjung Selor were on Low level (see fig. 1-6 FDR). Therefore the average fire danger level for these six locations was Moderate (see fig. 7, Average 6 weather stations).

According to the weather forecast for the next five days (24 – 28 September 2002), some areas in East Kalimantan expect rain, but in general, there will be thick cloud coverage, otherwise warm and humid (see fig. 11-15, weather forecast).

According to the hotspot information received from the NOAA satellite and processed by UPTD PKHL (**18-23 September**) there were a **total of 17 hotspots** detected during this time (accumulated for 6 days). The distribution over the districts of East Kalimantan was as follows:

5 hotspots in Kutai Kertanegara, 10 hotspots in West Kutai, and 2 hotspots in Pasir (see table 3, hotspots coordinate list). Most of East Kalimantan covered by thick cloud during this period of time. Since the NOAA satellite sensor was not able to penetrate clouds, therefore only the cloud-free area could be processed to detect the hotspot.

Report from Districts:

1. UPTD KPHP (Technical Implementation Unit of Production Forest Management) of Pasir district stated:

☞☞ The suppression activities in the PTPN XIII estate crops area, in cooperation with the company's employees have been going on until this present time because the fires are still occurring. At this moment, the total area affected about 750 ha (two weeks ago the total area affected around 500 ha. The fire was still burning when this report stated).

☞☞ There were some small-scale controlled fires for agriculture by local population (2-5 ha). The haze occurred in the morning.

2. Forestry Service of West Kutai District stated:

☞☞ There were some fires occurred in Muara Jawa Sub-District, Muara Pahu Sub-District and Tanjung Isuy Sub-District. There were no

further information about these fires. The haze was hampered the visibility in Melak and its surrounding area.

3. UPTD KPHP (Technical Implementation Unit of Production Forest Management) of Berau district stated that there was no fire occurrence during this week. There were rain for almost everyday and no haze cover at all.
4. Kutai National Park, East Kutai District stated that there were heavy rains for almost everyday during this week on Bontang, Sangatta and its surrounding area. There were still some small-scale fires for agriculture activities by local population in Teluk Pandan.
5. Bapedalda (Agency for environment impact control) Balikpapan stated:

✍✍ Balikpapan was very dry and there were several spots of coal seam fires. There was a fire inside the protected forest, but there was no further information about this fire. There were also some fires for agriculture activities by local community. The haze coverage was quite thick.

✍✍ There's been a fire burning since 23.09.02 until today in HTI PT. Inhutani I Batu Ampar-Mentawir (forest plantation) area. The suppression efforts have been taking place, conducted by the employees of PT. Inhutani I Batu Ampar-Mentawir in cooperation with PT. Inhutani Balikpapan. The fire has not been successfully suppressed until today because of the dry condition.

✍✍ There were some fires inside PT. ITCI Kenangan Balikpapan area. The fires caused by agriculture activities by local population, illegal logger and hunting activities. The area affected by fire around 74,81 ha. The fire burned timber wood, jati (*Teceona grandis*) and *Gmelina Arborea*.

The relative humidity for some parts on East Kalimantan area still ranged around 66-80%, however, the relative humidity for others area was lower (see fig. 18, Relative humidity).

The visibility for East Kalimantan in general was under normal condition, between 1-5km (especially Pasir and Melak).

The days since rain map showed that there were rainfalls over some parts in East Kalimantan Province, even it was not distributed evenly (see fig. 19; days since rain map).

Brief Infromation from:

UPTD PKHL

(Provincial Technical Implementation Unit of Forest and Land Fire Control)

1. UPTD PKHL conducted an Extention and Socialization of Land and Forest Fire Prevention and Control Program in Pasir District on 18-19 September 2002. During this activity, 20 fire tool boxes* were handed over to villages. There were 50 participants attended to this program from villages in Pasir District such as Muara Komam, Muara Kuaro, Uko, Muara Langon and Batu Butok. The were 9 personnels from UPTD PKHL who conducted this activity. On 18 September evening, there was a fire prevention movie show.
2. UPTD PKHL conducted a Community Assitance Program for Fores and Land Fire Control in Sangata (East Kutai District) and Bontang. This activity was a kind of refresh training for local community who had a Basic Fire Suppression Training. During this activity, 25 fire tool boxes* were handed over to villages. The activity was conducted on two villages:
 - ☞☞ Sepaso Village (East Kutai District) on 24 September 2002, attended by 30 participants
 - ☞☞ Belimbing Village (Bontang) on 24 September 2002, attended by 30 participants.
3. UPTD PKHL providing instructors for Forest and Land Fire Information System Training in West Kutai (Melak). This training was conducted by West Kutai Forestry Service on 17-18 September 2002. This training was attended by 20 participants from local villages.

* 1 fire tool box consist of 3 Shovels, 1 Pulaski, 3 fire flappers, 3 McLeods, 4 Trombon Hand-pumps, 4 Soft Containers, 12 Helmets, 12 Pair of Gloves.