

A Legal Review of Coastal Zone Management in North Kalimantan Pursuant To Law No. 1 Of 2014

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ABSTRACT: As an archipelagic nation, Indonesia possesses vast maritime and terrestrial areas. Its extensive coastal zones, whilst rich in natural resources, face threats from exploitation, pollution and climate change, leading to the degradation, decline and deterioration of the quality and condition of these coastal areas. North Kalimantan has an extensive coastal area, which requires sound management whilst prioritising local wisdom and empowering the local community. This paper employs a normative legal methodology, whereby the research utilises legislation as the subject of study. The data collection technique used by the researcher in this study is a literature review, in which data is obtained from academic writings as well as research in articles and other journals. The research findings indicate that the management of coastal areas in North Kalimantan Province implements Law No. 1 of 2014 on the Management of Coastal Areas and Small Islands, as well as North Kalimantan Provincial Regulation No. 4 of 2018 on the Zoning Plan for Coastal Areas and Small Islands (RZWP3K) 2018–2038. The challenge faced is the lack of oversight regarding violations of coastal and small island management regulations; therefore, collaboration between the community and the government is required to create well-managed coastal areas and maintain environmental sustainability, even in the face of development and climate change. Law No. 1 of 2014 has been effectively implemented, alongside strict adherence to North Kalimantan Provincial Regulation No. 4 of 2018. Collaboration between the government and the community is essential to achieve the welfare of the people and the nation whilst preserving the environmental sustainability of coastal areas.

KEYWORDS: Coastal Areas, North Kalimantan, Environmental Sustainability

I. INTRODUCTION

The 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia stipulates that “The land, water and natural resources contained therein shall be controlled by the State and utilised to the greatest possible extent for the prosperity of the people”. Based on the provisions of Article 33(3), there are key elements in the management of Indonesia’s land, water and natural resources, including “controlled by the State” and “to the greatest extent possible for the prosperity of the people”, so that any management of land, water and natural resources must be aligned with the philosophy of Article 33(3) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia.

As the world’s largest archipelago, Indonesia possesses an extensive coastal zone with a coastline stretching 95,181 kilometres. This coastal zone harbours extraordinary natural resources, ranging from mangrove ecosystems, coral reefs and seagrass beds to various types of marine life of high economic value.¹ This potential is not only important for the national economy but also forms the basis of livelihood for millions of people living in coastal areas.² Historically, Indonesia’s coastal regions have developed traditional management systems that are effective in ensuring the sustainability of natural resources.³

Coastal development today can no longer be viewed as a purely sectoral issue, but rather as part of a national development strategy with legal, economic and geopolitical dimensions. In the context of Indonesia as an archipelagic nation, coastal areas play a vital role as a hub of interaction between land and sea, determining the direction of national maritime development. North Kalimantan, as a province bordering Malaysia and situated along the strategic Sulawesi Sea route, has assumed an increasingly important geostrategic position since the designation of the Nusantara Capital City (IKN) in East Kalimantan. This geographical proximity positions North Kalimantan as an area with the potential to serve as a maritime hinterland and logistical buffer for the

¹Nadhilah,N.(2022).Lembaga Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Rumah Kupas Sebagai Solusi Permasalahan Masyarakat Pesisir Karangantu, *East a south journal of Effective CommunityServices*,1(02),Pg. 45

²Aminuddin,M.A.,&Burhanuddin,A.(2023), Potensi Kekayaan Dan Keberagaman Maritim DiWilayah Papua Dalam Upaya Mendorong Kesejahteraan Rakyat, *Mandub : Jurnal Politik, Sosial, Hukum Dan Humaniora*, Edisi 1 Vol :(4), Pg 157-176

³Mery Delvina, ,Eni Kamal, Abdul Razak, Widya Prarikeslan, Pengelolaan Wilayah Pesisir Berbasis Masyarakat Lokal, *Literature Review Gudang Jurnal Multidisiplin Ilmu*, Volume 2 ;, Nomor 10 November 2024, Pg 407.

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IKN. Consequently, pressure on the use of coastal areas will increase, whether for ports, the fishing industry, marine tourism or infrastructure supporting maritime connectivity. Without a robust and adaptive legal framework, these dynamics risk causing conflicts over land use and the degradation of coastal ecosystems. Therefore, the legal regulation of coastal areas is a strategic instrument for ensuring a balance between development interests and environmental protection.⁴

Conceptually, coastal areas are transitional zones with ecologically vulnerable characteristics, as they are influenced by both terrestrial and marine dynamics. This vulnerability calls for a management approach based on the precautionary principle and sustainability. In practice across various regions, coastal management frequently faces issues such as mangrove conversion, land reclamation, and the exploitation of fishery resources without adequate controls. These conditions indicate that coastal issues are not merely technical environmental matters, but also concerns of governance and legal frameworks governing who has the authority to manage, oversee, and take action against violations. In the context of North Kalimantan, the presence of Indonesia's largest mangrove ecosystem represents both an ecological asset and a significant legal responsibility. If not managed within a clear legal framework, the large-scale development around the IKN area could actually result in long-term ecological damage.⁵

Coastal legal frameworks in Indonesia have essentially provided a normative basis for zoning planning, licensing and ecosystem protection. The main issues often lie in regulatory inconsistencies and weak inter-sectoral coordination. On the one hand, regional autonomy provides local governments with the scope to manage their own resources; on the other hand, it leads to policy fragmentation when not accompanied by robust integration mechanisms. Within the framework of the rule of law, this situation highlights the importance of regulatory harmonisation to prevent conflicts of norms between central and regional policies. As a border region and a prospective maritime buffer zone for the New Capital City (IKN), North Kalimantan requires a regulatory framework that is not only responsive to local needs but also aligned with national strategic policies. Without this, the potential of the coastal region may, in fact, be hampered by legal uncertainty.⁶

As the world's largest archipelago, Indonesia has an extensive coastal area with a coastline stretching 95,181 kilometres. This coastal region is home to an extraordinary wealth of natural resources, ranging from mangrove ecosystems, coral reefs and seagrass beds to a wide variety of marine life of high economic value.⁷ This potential is not only important for the national economy but also forms the basis of livelihood for millions of people living in coastal areas. Historically, Indonesia's coastal regions have developed traditional management systems that are effective in ensuring the sustainability of natural resources.⁸

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North Kalimantan is a province in Indonesia situated in the northern part of the island of Kalimantan. It is one of the provinces that shares a direct border with Malaysia, specifically the states of Sabah and Sarawak. The administrative centre of North Kalimantan is currently located in Tanjung Selor, which also serves as the administrative centre of Bulungan Regency. By the end of 2025, the population of North Kalimantan stood at 786,228.¹⁰

Kalimantan plays a vital role as a bridge between the western and eastern parts of Indonesia. One of the provinces under study is East Kalimantan, which is the location of the Nusantara Capital City, with its zero point situated in Sepaku, North Penajam

⁴ Made Andi Arsana, *Batas Maritim Antarnegara: Sebuah Tinjauan Teknis dan Yuridis* (Yogyakarta: Gadjah Mada University Press, 2007), pg. 45–47.

⁵ Robert Kay dan Jacqueline Alder, *Coastal Planning and Management* (London: Taylor & Francis, 2005), pg. 3–6.

⁶ Maria S.W. Sumardjono, *Tanah dalam Perspektif Hak Ekonomi, Sosial, dan Budaya* (Jakarta: Kompas, 2008), pg. 112–115.

⁷ Nadhilah, N. (2022). Lembaga Pemberdayaan Masyarakat Rumah Kupas Sebagai Solusi Permasalahan Masyarakat Pesisir Karangantu, *East a south journal of Effective Community Services*, 1(02), Pg. 45

⁸ Mery Delvina, ,Eni Kamal, Abdul Razak, Widya Prarikeslan, Pengelolaan Wilayah Pesisir Berbasis Masyarakat Lokal, *Literature Review Gudang Jurnal Multidisiplin Ilmu*, Volume 2 ;, Nomor 10 November 2024, Pg 407.

⁹ Robert Kay dan Jacqueline Alder, *Coastal Planning and Management* (London: Taylor & Francis, 2005), pg. 3–6.

¹⁰ https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalimantan_Utara diakses 10 Juni 2026 Pukul 19.00 WIB.

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Paser Regency. The development of the Nusantara Capital City in East Kalimantan underscores the island's strategic role as a new epicentre for the equitable distribution of development across Indonesia, moving away from a focus solely on the island of Java. The presence of the Nusantara Capital City in East Kalimantan is expected to bring about significant changes at both regional and national levels, in terms of the economy, education and faster infrastructure development.¹¹

The issues that have arisen relate not only to legal norms, but also to governance, institutional capacity, community participation and environmental sustainability. These circumstances indicate that the existing legal framework needs to be critically reviewed and restructured so that it is better adapted to the dynamics of development. In light of the above, the author is interested in conducting research on a legal review of the management of the coastal areas of North Kalimantan in the context of the legal framework governing coastal zones, under the title “A Legal Review of Coastal Zone Management in North Kalimantan Pursuant to Law No. 1 of 2014”

Based on the background to the issue outlined in the previous section, the research questions to be addressed in this paper are as follows:

1. How has Law No. 1 of 2014 been implemented in the management of the coastal areas of North Kalimantan?
2. What challenges are faced in relation to the management of the coastal areas of North Kalimantan?

II. RESEARCH METHOD

The methodology employed in this study is normative legal research, which utilises legislation as the subject of analysis. The data collection technique used by the researcher in this study is a literature review, whereby data is obtained from academic writings and research published in articles and other journals.

Etymologically, the term ‘normative legal research’ originates from English; in Dutch it is known as ‘normative juridisch onderzoek’, whilst in German it is referred to as ‘normative juristische recherche’.

The approaches employed in this study are the statutory approach and the conceptual approach. The legislation serving as the basis for this research includes, amongst others, Law No. 1 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law No. 27 of 2007 on the Management of Coastal Areas and Small Islands; North Kalimantan Regional Regulation No. 4 of 2022 concerning the Environmental Protection and Management Plan for 2002–2052; East Kalimantan Governor's Regulation No. 13 of 2016 on the Strategic Plan for Coastal Areas and Small Islands for the period 2016–2036, and North Kalimantan Provincial Regulation No. 4 of 2018 on the Zoning Plan for Coastal Areas and Small Islands (RZWP3K) for the period 2018–2038.

III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Implementation of Law No. 1 of 2014 on the Management of the Coastal Zone of North Kalimantan

North Kalimantan is renowned as Indonesia's youngest province, rich in the natural beauty of its tropical rainforests and the cultural diversity of the Dayak and Tidung ethnic groups, and is one of the country's leading producers of marine products and mining resources. The province of North Kalimantan covers an area of approximately 75,467.70 km², situated between 114° 35' 22"–118° 03' 00" East Longitude and between 1° 21' 36"–4° 24' 55" North Latitude. Furthermore, in accordance with the province's jurisdictional boundaries, North Kalimantan has a maritime area of 11,579 km² (13 per cent of its total land area).

North Kalimantan is a province in Indonesia situated in the northern part of the island of Kalimantan. This province is one of those that shares a direct border with Malaysia, specifically the states of Sabah and Sarawak. The administrative centre of North Kalimantan is currently in Tanjung Selor, which also serves as the administrative centre of Bulungan Regency.[8] By the end of 2025, the population of North Kalimantan stood at 786,228.¹²

Constitutionally, the legal policy on environmental management is set out in Article 33(3) and (4) of the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, which states that the management of natural resources is aimed at maximising the prosperity of the people and is based on the principles of sustainability and environmental awareness. It is this spirit that should serve as the ‘guiding star’ for every legal policy relating to environmental management, including in the implementation of regional autonomy. In other words, legal policies on decentralisation and regional autonomy, insofar as they relate to environmental management, must be aligned with the legal policy on environmental management.

Based on such legal policy, decentralisation and regional autonomy will have a positive impact on environmental management, as regions can manage the environment within their areas more effectively. In reality, however, many legal instruments relating to regional autonomy fail to take this spirit into account. Environmental authority and institutional capacity at the regional

¹¹ Gunawan, A., Arfani, Z., Sari, A. M., & Septiani, R. (2023). Dampak Pemindahan Ibukota Negara Baru terhadap Ekonomi dan Sosial di Provinsi Kalimantan Timur. *Kultura: Jurnal Ilmu Hukum, Sosial, dan Humaniora*, 1(5), Pg 1-8.

¹² https://id.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalimantan_Utara diakses 10 Juli 2026 Pukul 19.00 WIB.

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level are also weak; consequently, whilst regional autonomy should have a positive impact on environmental management, in reality the opposite is true: various environmental incidents continue to occur and are tending to increase in the era of regional autonomy.¹³

Law No. 1 of 2014 amending Law No. 27 of 2007 on the Management of Coastal Areas and Small Islands sets out several processes involved in the management of coastal areas and small islands, including planning, monitoring, utilisation and regulation of human interaction in the sustainable use of coastal and small island resources, as well as natural processes, with a view to improving the welfare of the people and preserving the integrity of the unitary state of the Republic of Indonesia.¹⁴ Coastal areas and small islands are under the control of the state and are utilised to the fullest extent for the prosperity of the people. Legally, the fundamental concept of the right to control the resources of coastal areas and small islands is enshrined in Article 33(3) of the 1945 Constitution, which reads: 'The land, waters and natural resources contained therein are controlled by the State and utilised for the greatest possible prosperity of the people.' The Constitutional Court held that the principle of 'controlled by the State' is interpreted solely as ownership in the civil (private) sense by the state, this is insufficient to achieve the objective of 'the greatest possible prosperity of the people'; consequently, the mandate to 'promote the common good' and 'realise social justice for all the people of Indonesia' in the Preamble to the 1945 Constitution cannot be fulfilled. Consequently, the term 'controlled by the state' must be interpreted as encompassing state control in a broad sense, deriving from the concept of the sovereignty of the Indonesian people over all sources of wealth the land and water and the natural resources contained therein'including public ownership by the collective people of the said sources of wealth.

The management of coastal areas in North Kalimantan (Kaltara) is based on Kaltara Provincial Regulation No. 4 of 2018 concerning the 2018–2038 Zoning Plan for Coastal Areas and Small Islands (RZWP3K). This regulation is a direct implementation of the provisions of Law No. 1 of 2014 on the Management of Coastal Areas and Small Islands.

The Kaltara Provincial Government has divided its marine and coastal areas into specific utilisation zones to minimise the overlapping of marine spatial functions, including:

1. General Utilisation Zone: Allocated for tourism activities, coastal settlements, ports, and areas for the cultivation of key commodities.
2. Maritime Corridor Zone: Regulating regional and international maritime transport routes, given North Kalimantan's geographical position bordering Malaysia directly.
3. Conservation Zone: Protection of sensitive ecosystems such as mangrove forests in Tana Tidung, Nunukan and Bulungan Regencies.

The implementation of Law No. 1 of 2014 on the Management of Coastal Areas and Small Islands has been carried out by the Province of North Kalimantan, as this Law serves as the basis for subordinate regulations, namely North Kalimantan Provincial Regulation No. 4 of 2018 on the Zoning Plan for Coastal Areas and Small Islands (RZWP3K) 2018–2038.

Challenges Faced in Relation to Coastal Management in North Kalimantan

Indonesia's maritime zone covers an area of approximately 5.6 million km² with a coastline of 81,000 km, and possesses considerable resource potential, particularly in terms of marine fisheries, both in terms of quantity and diversity. Furthermore, Indonesia retains the right to participate in the management and utilisation of natural resources in the high seas beyond the 200-nautical-mile EEZ, as well as in the management and utilisation of natural resources on the seabed in international waters beyond the limits of the continental shelf. It appears that, in terms of economic development, Indonesia places greater emphasis on utilising the potential of its terrestrial resources than that of its marine resources.¹⁵

Coastal and maritime policies, as strategic policies, are expected to bring prosperity to the people, enhance the dignity and prestige of the Indonesian nation, and enable the country to stand on an equal footing with the world's developed nations. These policies are based on scientific objectivity, which is founded on participatory principles and designed to ensure that the people are the primary beneficiaries. This approach is strongly supported by the long-term objectives for the development of coastal regions in Indonesia, including, among others:¹⁶

Under Article 1(1) of Law No. 1 of 2014, the term 'coastal zone' refers to the Management of Coastal Zones and Small Islands is the coordination of the planning, utilisation, monitoring and control of coastal and small island resources carried out by

¹³ Nurjaya, I Nyoman., 2008, Moratorium Logging Dalam Perspektif Antropologi Hukum, <http://www.manifestmaya.blogspot.com/2008/01/moratorium-logging-dalam-perspek-tifhtml> Diakses 3 Juli 2026 Pukul 21.00 WIB

¹⁴ Chikmawati, Nurul Fajra, Pengelolaan Wilayah Pesisir dan Pulau-Pulau Kecil Indonesia (Dalam perspektif Perlindungan Hukum Bagi Hak-Hak Ekonomi Masyarakat Tradisional) Jurnal Hukum Vol 4 No 2 , Pg 408.

¹⁵ Suryanti, Supriharyono, Sutrisno Anggoro, Pengelolaan Wilayah Pesisir Terpadu, Semarang, Universitas Diponegoro, 2019, pg 4.

¹⁶ Andiyana, Agus Rachmat, Penerapan Konsep Pengembangan Wilayah Pesisir Dengan Memanfaatkan Potensi Sumber Daya Kelautan, Program Studi Arsitektur Fakultas Sains dan Teknik Universitas Faletahan, 2019, Pg 51

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the central and local governments, across sectors, between terrestrial and marine ecosystems, and between science and management, with a view to improving the welfare of the people.

Community empowerment is a key component of community-based coastal zone management. Capacity-building programmes through education and training, access to technology and information, and the strengthening of local institutions are necessary to ensure that communities have the adequate capacity to manage their own areas.¹⁷ Integrated Coastal and Marine Area Management (PWPLT) requires information on the development potential of a coastal and marine area, as well as the existing issues both actual and potential.¹⁸

Gender issues also require special attention in community-based coastal zone management. Coastal women play a vital role in resource management and household economics, yet are often marginalised in decision-making. Empowerment programmes must ensure women's active participation at every stage of management.¹⁹

Coordination amongst stakeholders is one of the key challenges that needs to be addressed. A clear framework is required to define the roles and responsibilities of the various parties, including the government, the public, NGOs, academics and the private sector. Synergy amongst these stakeholders is essential to ensure the effectiveness and sustainability of coastal zone management programmes.²⁰

The implementation of Law No. 1 of 2014 on the Management of Coastal Areas and Small Islands covers three main aspects: zoning planning, licensing of land use, and environmental monitoring. Its implementation aims to preserve the sustainability of ecosystems, but still faces various obstacles on the ground. Obstacles and challenges:

1. Weak monitoring of violations regarding the use of coastal areas
2. A lack of meaningful community involvement in decision-making.
3. Conflicts of interest between economic investment and the livelihood rights of local residents

In the province of North Kalimantan, which has implemented Law No. 1 of 2014 on the management of coastal areas and small islands, obstacles or challenges have been encountered, namely weak supervision of coastal area violations. In the author's view, if it is argued that the government is obliged to protect the rights of indigenous and traditional communities, this would contradict the regulations requiring indigenous and traditional communities to hold HP-3 rights over the management of coastal areas and small islands. The HP-3 provisions for customary law communities are in contradiction with the very existence of these communities, as they are fundamentally subject to customary land rights (*hak ulayat*) yet are then forced to comply with HP-3; consequently, customary law communities are unable to apply customary law or customary land rights in the management of coastal areas and small islands.

HP-3, or Coastal Waters Utilisation Rights, is a special right to utilise specific parts of coastal waters for maritime activities, fisheries and the utilisation of resources on small islands. This regulation forms part of the Coastal Zone Management Act. This right specifically covers the utilisation of the sea surface, the water column and the seabed within a specific area.

In the author's view, the government should collaborate with the community and all relevant authorities to jointly develop the city of North Kalimantan whilst safeguarding the sustainability of coastal areas and small islands, so that the rights of the community are protected and development continues in step with the times, whilst prioritising environmental sustainability and local wisdom.

CONCLUSIONS

North Kalimantan's coastal governance is constitutionally grounded in Article 33 of the 1945 Constitution, which requires natural resources to be managed sustainably for the greatest prosperity of the people. Law No. 1 of 2014 provides the legal framework for integrated coastal and small island management through planning, utilisation, monitoring, and environmental protection, while North Kalimantan has implemented these principles through Provincial Regulation No. 4 of 2018 (RZWP3K), which establishes zoning for conservation, maritime corridors, and general utilisation. Despite this legal framework, implementation remains constrained by weak enforcement, limited community participation, overlapping interests between economic development and environmental protection, and inconsistencies in recognising indigenous communities' customary rights, particularly regarding HP-3 (Coastal Waters Utilisation Rights). Effective coastal governance therefore requires stronger monitoring, meaningful stakeholder collaboration, greater community and gender-inclusive participation, and harmonisation of legal provisions protecting customary

¹⁷ Lakoy, S. K., & Goni, S. Y. Kearifan lokal pemberdayaan masyarakat dalam pengelolaan dan pembangunan sumberdaya perikanan berkelanjutan di Kota Bitung. *Agri-Sosioekonomi*, 17(2 MDK) 2021,, Pg. 635-646.

¹⁸ Dahuri, R., Rais Y., Putra S.G dan Sitepu M.J. 2001. *Pengelolaan Sumberdaya Wilayah Pesisir dan Lautan Secara Terpadu*. PT. Pranadaya Paramita, Jakarta, pg 93

¹⁹ Gai, A. M., Artiyani, A., & Soewarni, I. (2020). Pemberdayaan Kelompok Nelayan Sukolilo Dalam Upaya Peningkatan Sustainable Livelihood, Dan Mitigasi Bencana di Wilayah Pesisir Kota Surabaya. *Sinergi: Jurnal Pengabdian*, 2(2).

²⁰ Putra, A., & Palenti, C. D. (2023). Triplehelix: Pemberdayaan Masyarakat di Wilayah Pesisir Pantai Panjang Kota Bengkulu. *Jurnal Pendidikan Luar Sekolah*, 17(2),pg 86-100.

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rights. These measures are essential to achieve sustainable coastal development that balances economic growth, environmental conservation, and social justice while preserving North Kalimantan's unique coastal ecosystems for future generations.

RECOMMENDATION

The Government of North Kalimantan should strengthen the implementation of Law No. 1 of 2014 by improving monitoring and enforcement of coastal area management to prevent environmental violations and ensure compliance with zoning regulations. Greater institutional coordination among government agencies is essential to enhance policy effectiveness and reduce overlapping authority. In addition, meaningful participation of local communities, indigenous peoples, women, academics, and the private sector should be integrated into coastal planning and decision-making processes. The government should also harmonise regulations on Coastal Waters Utilisation Rights (HP-3) with the constitutional recognition of customary (ulayat) rights to provide legal certainty and protect indigenous communities. Finally, coastal development policies should adopt an ecosystem-based approach that balances economic growth with environmental conservation through sustainable resource management, protection of coastal ecosystems, and continuous environmental monitoring. These measures will support effective, inclusive, and sustainable coastal governance while ensuring that the utilisation of coastal resources contributes to the long-term welfare of present and future generations.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The author would like to express gratitude to colleagues at the Faculty of Law, Diponegoro University, for being invaluable discussion partners in the preparation of this journal. The author would like to thank the reviewers and editors for their efforts in shaping this paper.

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