Grouper-based coastal eco-marine-tourism in Gerokgak district, Bali

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Abstract. The environmentally-aware marine tourism research aimed to analyze the degradation of environmental quality for mariculture, geographical indication for grouper products and then to formulate Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism. The research method used survey, focus group discussion and laboratory examination. The degradation of marine waters in Gerokgak district has not occurred yet, but integrated control should continuously be done to keep integrated mariculture. Grouper products both seeds and fishes in Gerokgak district have been excellent. They are strongly caused by the appropriate Gerokgak coastal and marine waters quality, climate and unique culture of the local community. These potentials strongly support certificate for geographical indication to increase the national and international trade of grouper products and further support coastal eco-marine-tourism. The village governance should be more intensive in issuing permits for aquaculture business and fostering environmental health through customary rule or Awig-Awig for coastal villages. They should do structuring and developing Bangsal Beach for the object of center access to the sea cage cultivations, as well as Batu Agung Beach as center access to hatchery objects. The settings of eco-marine-tourism management should follow them with the intention to grow the area that refers to the structure of life, space, and pattern in harmony with the local culture

1. Introduction

Bali relies heavily on the development of sustainable tourism. On the other hand, the rapid development of tourism in Bali has brought tremendous breaking energy which has caused degradation of the natural/agricultural/aquatic environment quality and affects structural changes to Balinese society and culture significantly. Bali often has to face difficult choices, whether developing tourism at the expense of agriculture and the environment or maintaining agriculture and environment by limiting tourism development. In accordance with the goals of SDGs 2030, that development must always be oriented towards a balance between economic development, social improvement and environmental preservation. The best resolution is rather developing tourism sector without degrading agriculture and environment (Vipriyanti, 2012). One alternative that is in this combination is the development of eco-agro-tourism to agricultural areas both on land, coast, and sea. The eco-agro-tourism which specifically uses marine/sea areas here is the concept of eco-marine-tourism. Eco-marine-tourism aims to provide mariculture value-added in the broadest sense and environmentally sound, as well as to develop tourism through packaging and marketing tour packages of the activities, products, and landscapes of the maricultural cultivation.

Utilization of agricultural activities that rely on coastal and marine waters or marine aquaculture which is used as an agrotourism destination in Bali is very rare. Such marine aquaculture is the development of various types of reef fish with a superior commodity, namely grouper. These grouper aquaculture businesses have been carried out en masse in the West Buleleng area (Gerokgak district)
especially along the coastal waters of Gerokgak village, Sanggalangit, Penyabangan and Musi (hatchery activities), and the marine waters of Sumberkima village (fish enlargement activities in floating net cages / KJA). Grouper cultivation should be developed because of some of its economic advantages, besides being suspected to reduce damage to coral reef ecosystems. This effort is growing because the production process uses more of the existing coastal and marine resources, and uses large local components, while the product has potential to export (Hanafi et al., 2005).

1.1 Background of the problems
Determination of the coast from Gerokgak village to Sumberkima village in Gerokgak district by the Buleleng Regency Government as a center marine aquaculture area and is part of the development area of Batu Ampar Tourism in West Buleleng, on the one hand, it provides a very strategic opportunity for the development of marine aquaculture. However, on the other hand, it is suspected to provide ecological pressure on the ecosystem, coastal and marine resources. In this manner, it is necessary to know the degradation of the environmental quality of marine aquaculture.

The Grouper aquaculture products (both seeds and fishes) on the coast of Gerokgak district have been excellent due to the appropriate geographic factors, quality of coastal and marine waters, substrate condition of the seabed and climate and the unique culture of the local community. However, the national and international trade in grouper products has not had a certificate of Geographical Indications yet, even though the legal protection of Geographical Indications can protect grouper fish products from violations of product reputation. In addition, Geographical Indications can encourage and provide opportunities for producers to jointly maintain and improve product quality, consolidate or even increase prices on the market. Furthermore, the reputation built around the Geographical Indications of Gerokgak district can be an important marketing tool to strengthen the product position in the domestic and international markets as well as to penetrate the new export market.

The exploration of Geographical Indications of grouper aquaculture products must be supported with integrated and sustainable management of coastal areas in Gerokgak district, which integrates every interest in balance (proportionality) between ecological dimensions, social dimensions, inter-sectoral, scientific disciplines and all stakeholders of the coastal area. In this case, it is necessary to stipulate management regulations in the form of Awig-Awig (customary rule) of the coastal village in Gerokgak district. Furthermore, the development of eco-marine-tourism destinations from the activities and landscape of grouper farming will be able to build an integrated and coordinated activity system to develop tourism sector as well as aquaculture sector while maintaining environmental sustainability and increasing wider positive social impacts and values for coastal communities in the Gerokgak district. The problem then is how to formulate the Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism?

1.2 Research objectives
- To analyze the degradation of the environmental quality of aquaculture in Gerokgak district and anticipation efforts to be carried out.
- To analyze the mapping of geographical indication for grouper products in Gerokgak district.
- To formulate the Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism.

2. Methods
The assessment of parameters of environmental health for mariculture and the management efforts to keep the health were carried out at twelve observation stations on along the coast of Gerokgak district. Health parameters aquatic environments for aquaculture (physical, chemical and biological) as well as the tools used to measure referred to the APHA (1992).

The mapping of Geographical Indications for grouper products in Gerokgak district was done with a survey to 30 hatchery firms, and 15 grouper KJA firms. Primary data were collected with the survey to chemical and biological characteristics (laboratory test) on six grouper seeds and six fishes product from KJA as well as characteristics of the production process.

To formulate Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism was done with coastal communities involvement in a focus group discussion (FGD) in Gerokgak and Sumberkima village. Tabulation of
3. Results and discussion
The potency of mariculture for eco-marine-tourism in Gerokgak district is as follows. Some species of grouper fish that have been successful and commonly produced by the local farmers in Gerokgak, namely: Tiger grouper (*Epinephelus fuscoguttatus*), Rat grouper (*Cromileptes altivelis*), Sunu grouper (*Plectropomus leopardus*), hybrid grouper of Cantang (a cross between Dragon grouper (as male) and Tiger grouper (as female)) and hybrid grouper of Cantik (a cross between male Tiger grouper with female Batik grouper). There are 72 venture grouper hatcheries (some complete hatcheries, and the others backyard hatcheries) along the coast of Gerokgak with a total area of 1180 larvae tanks. Besides larvae tanks, a grouper hatchery also needs plankton tanks and rotifer tanks as tanks for natural food production for grouper larvae. The overall grouper hatchery firms absorb labor force of about 500 people remained and 700 seasonal workers. However, at certain times drought can decrease the quality of seawater in the area around the inlet and outlet which result in the death of natural foods (plankton, rotifer) larvae and fish en masse. Therefore it is very important/ urgent to check the quality of the physical, chemical and biological of the seawater around the inlet and outlet of the hatcheries. The grouper hatchery activity which is a biological application of the food chain in the nursery of larvae to be juveniles/seeds (size 3-5 cm) has attraction as an object for the education of marintourism.

The potential sea waters of Sumberkima bay for ranching groupers in floating cage/KJA is 1480 ha, but yet there are only 27 KJA firms. Their total fishponds (3x3 m) are 3864 units and apply only about 100 ha waters of Sumberkima bay (6.8%). The average investment capital per fishpond is Rp 4,000,000,00.00, and working capital is Rp 6,000,000,00, so the average account for running a fishpond is Rp 10,000,000,00. On average for running 100 fishponds employs 30 workers, so the whole sea cage farms in Sumberkima bay absorbs 1160 workers. The commercial size of groupers in Hongkong and Taiwan is 25–30 cm for a weight of 600 g to 1 kg. *E. fuscoguttatus* reaches commercial size within ten months, *E. malabaricus* within 12 months, *Cromileptes altivelis* within 12-15 months and hybrid grouper within 5-6 months. Average production for one fishpond is 125 kg adult alive grouper per cycle production. The maximum production for the whole grouper KJA in Sumberkima bay is about 483 ton per cycle production.

### 3.1 The environmental health of sea waters for aquaculture and the management efforts
Fluctuations of the tide in Sumberkima bay are considered good enough for aquaculture: ranching fishes or grouper KJA, brackish water or ponds, due to the maximum tidal range only reaches a height of 2 m. Seawater quality parameters, namely nitrate (NO3) and phosphate (PO4) in seawater of 0.0261- 0.0599 ppm and 0.055- 0.094 ppm, although they do not cause problems in aquaculture activities, but they have been in category exceed the quality standards of sea water for life marine biota (<0.008 ppm and <015 ppm) according to the Decree of the Minister of Environment No. 51 the year 2004. These are caused by the high production of domestic waste from aquaculture activities in marine waters. As for other chemical parameters: pH, DO, BOD, nitrite, and ammonia are still in the category of safe and healthy for marine life. The physical quality of seawater: temperature, TSS, salinity and texture of the base substrate are within the normal range for marine biota (see Table 1). Macrozoobenthos and plankton diversity index (2:18 and 2:38) still exceed 2:00 signify marine waters is not polluted and healthy for marine aquaculture activities. Macrozoobenthos and plankton dominance index (0:21 and 0:15) of less than 0:40 indicate partial dominance macrozoobenthos and low plankton and signaling healthy marine water for marine aquaculture activities. Waste mariculture excessive will increase the content of ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, and phosphate in the water, so it can reduce productivity and species composition of phytoplankton and zooplankton and makes dominance of certain species that are not expected in the marine aquaculture activities (Hanafi et al., 2008). The impact on the marine environment that may result from the mass cultivation of hatcheries and the KJA is either: a) residual waste pelleted feed and chemicals, drugs of tubs, ponds or KJA; and b) genetic pollution, as well as the transfer of diseases and parasites of fishes. The degree of impact is highly dependent on the capacity of aquaculture, farmed fish species, the density of the stock, the type of
artificial feed, hydrographic of the location of cultivation and maintenance methods (Jennings et al., 2001).

Table 1. The parameter of marine water health for aquaculture in Gerokgak district

| No | Parameter                    | Observation          | Quality standard for biota or cultivation |
|----|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------------|
|    | Physical                     |                      |                                          |
| 1  | Temperature                  | 28.2-30.0 °C         | 28.0-32.0 °C                             |
| 2  | Brightness                   | 4.8-9.5 m            | > 3 m                                    |
| 3  | Suspended solid (TSS)        | 0.007-0.015 ppm      | <80.00 ppm                               |
| 4  | Seabed substrate Texture    | 85.2-95.6 %          | -                                        |
|    | Chemical                     |                      |                                          |
| 1  | pH                           | 8.14-8.36            | 7.00-8.50                                |
| 2  | Salinity                     | 33.3-34.8 ppt        | 33-35 ppt                                |
| 3  | DO                           | 6.50-8.11 ppm        | > 5 ppm                                  |
| 5  | NO₃                         | 0.0261-0.0599 ppm    | < 0.008 ppm                              |
| 6  | NO₂                          | 0.031-0.059 ppm      | -                                        |
| 7  | NH₃                          | 0.010-0.039 ppm      | < 0.300 ppm                              |
| 8  | PO₄                          | 0.055-0.094 ppm      | < 0.015 ppm                              |
| 9  | BOD₅                         | 2.10-8.74 ppm        | < 20 ppm                                 |
| 10 | Heavy metals                 | Cd 1.36-5.08 ppm; Cu 3.04-42.66 ppm; Pb 1.97-23.67 ppm; Mn 12.01-72.74 ppm; Zn 3.4-44.25 ppm; Ni 2.11-37.66 ppm; Hg 0.00 |
|    | Biological                   |                      |                                          |
| 1  | Macrozooobenthos             | 2.18                 | 0.59                                      |
| 2  | Plankton                     | 2.38                 | 0.68                                      |

The grouper aquaculture in Gerokgak most (85%) rely on natural feed (trash fishes, plankton, rotifers, copepods, rebon, and artemia). They do not require large quantities of pellets or other artificial protein feed. Therefore the environmental pollution of marine waters can be included that it is very low. The results of this study indicate that the phenomenon of environmental degradation of mariculture in Gerokgak district has not occurred yet, but continuously efforts to control and anticipate it should be done as to achieve integrated mariculture. As was promoted by Soto, 2009 that integrated mariculture was a mitigation approach against the excess nutrients / organic matter generated by intensive aquaculture activities, particularly in marine waters. The efforts to control and anticipation should be as follows.

- In order to immediately do layout arrangement of a sewage treatment system in shrimp ponds, cultivation of pearl shells and other aquaculture, so the aquaculture activities conducted in this area do not cause a decrease in the quality of the environment.
- The service agencies in the village should do more intensive in issuing aquaculture business licenses and restrictions when it exceeds the carrying capacity of land as well as fostering the importance of the environment. One of them by creating a customary village regulation (Awig Awig and Subak institution for coastal villages).
• In the exercise of aquaculture in ponds should improve efficiency in feeding and fertilizing, restrictions on stocking densities, sewer arrangement and when there are outbreaks do sterilization and neutralization of the water before being discharged it into waterways.

• For KJA aquaculture, pearl cultivations, shrimp ponds must do monitoring and controlling of diseases on a regular basis and environmentally friendly, countermeasures simultaneously in case of disease outbreaks to the termination of the disease cycle.

• To avoid double fertilization organic sediments under floating net cages and pearl farming, do a safe distance between the placement of the unit of cages and cages undergo rotational placement locations for a time period to allow the decomposition of cages organic waste naturally.

• Need to restructure seriously to timber port and fishing boats, as well as building restrictions on the coastal border, the arrangement of cleanliness and sanitation in harbour areas and township residents to mitigate the negative impacts on the environment.

• Need to develop and to preserve mangroves which starting to appear any damage due to illegal logging, land clearing ponds and the onslaught of the waves.

3.2 The mapping of Geographical Indication for grouper products in Gerokgak district
The result of laboratory test on grouper products indicates that the quality of seeds and fishes are good and healthy and do not contain harmful pollutants (see Table 2 and Table 3). The quality of coastal and marine waters, the substrate condition of the seabed and climate and the local unique culture (Nyegare-Gunung cultivation: all life activities carried out on land/Gunung will have an impact on the sea/Segare; so also what is done in the sea will have an impact on people on land. So that Segare and Gunung management must be integrated which prioritizes health and sustainability) have been the factors of good grouper aquaculture products. The all of grouper production process, from the management of broodstock, hatchery, nursery, and KJA cultivation follow well biosecurity those are indicated by the high survival rate of the hatcheries production (an average of 36%) and the KJA production (an average of 88%). The specific policy for sustainable development of grouper mariculture that encompasses, seed, feed, investment, environment, technology and trade in Gerokgak district have been well done and well placed. The private sector has contributed significantly to the development of grouper mariculture, either in a hatchery or in grow-out farms. Private corporations have invested particularly in the hatchery, feed milling, processing, farming equipment, and supplies. The all of above excellences which figuring the profile of fine integrated grouper mariculture are indeed to support the applying Certificate of Geographical Indication for Gerokgak’s grouper and then supports feasible eco-marine-tourism.

| Parameter          | Test result (average) | Degrees of Variance (%) | Health Standard |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Microbiology test  |                       |                          |                 |
| 1) Escherichia colli | <3                    | 0                        | <3              |
| 2) Salmonella      | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 3) Parasite        | 0                     | 0                        | 0               |
| 4) Coliform        | <3                    | 0                        | <3              |
| Chemical test      |                       |                          |                 |
| 1) Histamine       | 33.18                 | 24.41                    | Max 100         |
| 2) TVB             | 9.48                  | 12.28                    | Max 25          |
| 3) TMA             | 3.73                  | 35.09                    | -               |
| 4) Formaldehyde    | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 5) Plumbum         | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 6) Mercury         | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 7) Cadmium         | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |

Table 2. The result of health laboratory test on six grouper fishes

Table 3. The result of a health laboratory test on six grouper seeds
| Parameter          | Test result (average) | Degrees of Variance (%) | Health Standard |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| Microbiology test  |                       |                          |                 |
| 1) Escherichia coli| <3                    | 0                        | <3              |
| 2) Salmonella      | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 3) Parasite        | 0                     | 0                        | 0               |
| 4) Coliform        | <3                    | 0                        | <3              |
| Chemical test      |                       |                          |                 |
| 1) Histamine       | 6.96                  | 13.97                    | Max 100         |
| 2) TVB             | 4.77                  | 19.98                    | Max 25          |
| 3) TMA             | 0.00                  | 0.00                     | -               |
| 4) Formaldehyde    | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 5) Plumbum         | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 6) Mercury         | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |
| 7) Cadmium         | Negative              | 0                        | Negative        |

3.3 The formulation to Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism

The ranching in Sumberkima bay (mainly grouper sea cage farms) with its emerged surrounding landscape as well as the all along seaside hatchery farms in Gerokgak district are really good-looking and attractive destinations for eco-marine-tourism (see Figure 1). These potential destinations can be developed for establishing a pack of education, food and recreation marintourism. There are some other factors (can be beautiful attraction looks for tourists) that contributed to the success of the coastal eco-marine-tourism program. They are the uniqueness of Sumberkima values and cultures founded in harmonious pluralism on tradition, religion, and aspiration (Moslem, Hinduism, Christian as well as Balinese, Mandarines, Maduranes, and Javanese). Some traditional heritage temples of Pulaki, Prapat Agung, Segare Rupek and Gili Kencana for religious tourism can be connected to the eco-marine-tourism. The sites of all hatchery and KJA firms have good accessibility (can be reached by car).

On the focus group discussion (FGD) in Sumberkima village which attended by 45 representatives of all coastal social stratum in Gerokgak district, it was concluded that the forum was in agreement to develop and to foster eco-marine-tourism in Gerokgak district. Especially they required a center for accessing the object of grouper KJA farms at Bangsal beach (one of the beaches in Sumberkima bay). Furthermore, all of the representatives expected the marintourism development a large amount for improving the coastal farmers (small fishing groups) own earnings. The survey to 30 broodstock/hatchery farmers indicated their strong holding up to the development program of eco-marine-tourism, as well as they, were willing to arrange their backyard hatchery to be a destination for education eco-marine-tourism. The central access for this destination should be at Batu Agung beach.

The vision and mission of the Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism are "We would like to provide a sustainable future for the people in coastal communities in Gerokgak district, instead of leaving to travel to the cities for employment, they will have a beneficial future here. Finally, the safeguarding to mariculture is of paramount importance to us...sustainable integrated mariculture and dealing out it to the tourism sector must be the coastal communities way. By returning to prudent tradition-religion-aspiration-culture values and practices in marine economic activities, we will restore the earth to a point before damages & disarray threatened our coastal existence. These are what we would like to share with the world". These below measures should be done to realize the above vision-mission.

- To create a website with dealing vision and mission: “integrated grouper mariculture arranged with community economic development through eco-marine-tourism. Contact destination should be in Sumberkima village”. website in the relation is [www.omnibaliagrotourism.com](http://www.omnibaliagrotourism.com)
Establishing a center for accessing the sea cage farms at Bangsal beach. Some facilities should be there at this center: a simple seaport equipped with a small bridge connecting the mainland to the port; parking area; some food and drink and souvenirs stands; and a pair of bathrooms-toilets.

- The setting up eco-marine-tourism management should follow open/spontaneous type (Ross and Glenn, 2006) with a purpose: growing region merging with the structure of life, both space and patterns with the local community (community-based tourism). Distribution of the revenue generated from visitors must be in a large amount for local residents, but the negative impacts (declining their local genius/wisdom) may quickly spread into the local population. The negative impacts should be tightly controlled through the involvement of customary villages (desa adat) and customary hamlets (banjar adat) in Gerokgak district.

The basic premise of ecotourism is simple, and its potential extends well beyond tropical systems. Tourists pay to experience nature in a manner that respects the local culture and environment. The local economy and culture benefit, creating an enduring incentive for the locals to maintain the supply of tourists via natural resource conservation (Honey, 2008). Therefore The Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism development should adhere to three basic principles of sustainable development: (i) conserving natural areas; (ii) soothing/educating visitors; and (iii) benefiting the local population.

Figure 1. The landscape map of Gerokgak coastal eco-marine-tourism

4. Conclusion
Model for developing Grouper-based coastal eco-marine-tourism in Gerokgak district can be described as follows.

- Control to degradation of environmental quality for grouper aquaculture by creating customary rules (Awig Awig and Subak for coastal villages) and implementation to achieve rationality in utilizing coastal and marine resources harmoniously with the system of values in tradition, religion, aspiration, and culture of the local community.

- To keep the reputation of grouper products towards geographical indication (may act as a certification that the product possesses certain qualities, is made according to local integrated mariculture methods, due to Gerokgak’s geographical origin).
Packaging and marketing tour packages of the activities, products, and landscapes of the grouper mariculture in which the setting up eco-marine-tourism management should follow open/spontaneous type with the purpose: growing region merging with the structure of life, both space and patterns with the local community (community-based tourism).

The negative impacts those may occur to people in the community should be tightly controlled through the involvement of customary villages (desa adat) and customary hamlets (banjar adat) in Gerokgak district.

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