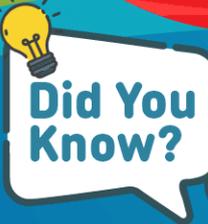




INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE: TAGAL



The indigenous community people in Sabah depends on natural resources for survival. Their customs emphasise a close relationship with the environment. The Tagal system is one of the traditional practices that preserves the cleanliness and health of the river and its life.

WHAT IS THE TAGAL SYSTEM?

The Tagal System has been adapted to protect, revive and manage the freshwater fishery resources.

The Department of Fisheries Sabah, through a smart partnership with local communities adopted the Tagal System to ensure sustainable fisheries being practised systematically.

The word "Tagal" is translated as **PROHIBIT** in the Kadazan Dusun language.

To date, there are **628 Tagal** in 227 rivers in Sabah

Each Tagal area is divided into 3 zones:



The Impacts of Tagal

- The cleanliness and clarity of river water can be consistently well-maintained.
- A clean river can improve fish population and other aquatic life.
- Rivers can serve as excellent spots for ecotourism activities.
- Visitors and locals can enjoy the river while preserving nature.

The Future of Tagal

- A successful, sustained and environmentally friendly approach to curb overfishing.
- A method to commercialise ecotourism via tourist attractions and the sale of river fish species.
- All conventional systems are recognised and validated by the Department of Fisheries through MoU.

Native Customary Law and the Sabah Inland Fisheries and Aquacultural Enactment: Offenders could be PENALISED if they breached the law.