

IDENTIFICATION OF LAKE TARUSAN AS A NATURE TOURISM DESTINATION IN AGAM DISTRICT WEST SUMATRA

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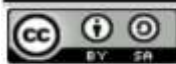
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ABSTRACT: Lake Tarusan Tourism Object always provides beautiful scenery, with cool air and a lovely lake. This condition indicates that there is a huge potential in the development of tourism to become an attraction for natural tourist destinations. Lake Tarusan should be a place frequented by tourists because of the potential for its natural beauty which is very charming. Presently, Lake Tarusan has not become a place that is often visited by domestic and foreign tourists. Lake Tarusan's problems include poorly maintained landscape conditions; various other facilities are not adequate as a tourist destination; neglect of public participation in applying the elements of Sapta Pesona as a tourist attraction. The purpose of this study is to identify the potential for natural attractions of Lake Tarusan. The research method used is descriptive analysis by conducting an inventory of data and tourism approaches. Primary data inventory was conducted through direct observation of the condition of the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction. Secondary data obtained through literature study of similar research in journals, maps and other sources. Identification of Tourism Destinations by taking a tourism approach to the 5 main elements of tourism: tourist attractions, facilities, infrastructure, transportation and hospitality. Data analysis used in this study descriptive qualitative to determine the natural potential and constraints that exist in Lake Tarusan as a tourist destination. The results of this analysis determine the direction of the development plan and indicates that the natural potential of Lake Tarusan is suitable as a natural tourist destination. As an attraction for tourism objects and the need to improve the quality of various supporting facilities as an effort to develop sustainable tourism objects.

Keywords: Lake Tarusan, Nature Tourism, Natural Tourist Destination, Sustainable Tourism Objects



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1. INTRODUCTION

Tourism is one of the most important economic sectors for Indonesia. In 2015 Indonesian tourism was ranked 4th in foreign exchange income after oil and gas, coal and palm oil commodities [1]. In addition, based on the analysis of the World Travel and Tourism Council and the World Bank, it is concluded that the tourism industry in Indonesia contributes 10% of the Gross Domestic Product.) [2]. This means that the number of foreign tourists entering Indonesia increased by 10.79% compared to the previous year [10].

A tourist destination is a geographical area located in one or more administrative areas in which

there are tourist attractions, public facilities, tourism facilities, accessibility, as well as related communities and complement the realization of tourism [4].

Lake Tarusan is a tourist attraction located in Kamang Magek District, Agam Regency, which is well known by many people. Lake Tarusan tourism object is one of the most of tourism in West Sumatra, especially Agam Regency. Besides being famous for its natural beauty, especially its lakes, Lake Tarusan is also famous for the local wisdom of the surrounding community, especially its unique and interesting culture. Lake Tarusan as a complete and integrated tourist destination has a variety of interesting natural beauty. Some of its natural beauties namely:

recreational parks, Batu Caves, Cat Rocks, Shivering Stones, banyan trees, clove garden tours. In addition to its natural beauty, there are also various types of animals found in the lake such as goldfish, mujair, corks, monitor and various other types of fish [5-6].

The existence of the Tarusan lake tourist attraction is often only a transit tourist attraction, namely a tourist attraction that is passed by tourists as a place to stop for a while so that they can continue their journey to the tourist attractions intended by tourists. This tourist attraction which is considered a transit tourist attraction makes people less familiar with the potential possessed by the Tarusan lake tourist attraction besides the Tarusan lake tourist attraction does not yet have adequate facilities. Even though the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction has tourism potential that deserves to be highlighted and becomes one part of existing tourism in West Sumatra. The objectives of this research are (1) to identify the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction as a natural tourism destination (2) to explore the potential for natural development (3) to map the constraints (accessibility, facilities, culture and other aspects).

2. METHODS

The research was conducted at the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction, Kamang Magek sub-district, West Sumatra in January 2020. This research method is a descriptive analysis method. Activities carried out include:

1. Inventory

There are 2 data needed in this study, namely; a) primary data obtained through direct observation of site conditions, b) secondary data obtained through journals, maps and other sources.

2. Tourism Approach

The tourism approach is carried out by reviewing the main elements of tourism and the elements of attraction of tourist objects at the location. The main elements of tourism include: (1) tourist attractions, (2) facilities, (3) infrastructure (4) transportation and (5) hospitality [7]. Tourism activities need to be supported based on

infrastructure. This stage is carried out by interviews, questionnaires and field observations. [3].

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Identification of Tourist Attraction

Tourist attraction is everything that is interesting, has beauty, uniqueness, value in the form of diversity of natural and cultural wealth made by humans which is the target of tourist visits [4]. By tourist attraction. Nature tourism is all forms of tourism activities by utilizing the potential of natural resources so that it becomes an attraction for visitors. Nature tourism includes: beaches, lakes, rivers, mountains, craters, natural scenery, springs, waterfalls, nature reserves [2]. Tourism in Lake Tarusan is included in the category of Nature tourism. The results of the identification of tourist attractions in Tarusan Lake are natural scenery. Tourism activities that can be carried out include:

3.1.1. Swimming

The attraction of the clear lake water and calm ripples, making swimming activities carried out by many visitors at the natural tourist sites of Lake Tarusan. Swimming in the lake area is an activity that is an attraction for tourists when visiting the Tarusan lake tourist attraction as a beach tourist attraction [8]. The tourism object manager provides rental of rubber tires, boats, and traditional tools in the form of rafts made of bamboo as an attraction for visitors who will swim in Lake Tarusan.

3.1.2. Raft

Raft is a means of water transportation that is used by local people for various activities such as crossing between two Babuki villages and Halalang villages, as a means of catching fish, and also as a means of transportation for visitors. This raft has a characteristic that it is made of old forest bamboo, the number of bamboos are 7 pieces and is 10 meters long. Besides that, there is also a rower in the form of a stick which is also made of 10 meters long bamboo.



Fig 1. Raft as Lake Transportation Mode

3.1.3. Meadow

Around the Tarusan lake there is a vast meadow. This place is a place for various kinds of activities such as selfie, children's play, resting place, recreation. This meadow is located downstream of the

lake. This area is in great demand by visitors because they can see firsthand the beauty of Tarusan Lake which is surrounded by hills. In this place visitors can also enjoy the natural beauty of the sunset in the afternoon.



Fig. 2. Meadow

Lake Tarusan at certain times of the lake can be a large green field, like a meadow. Some residents use this place to graze livestock if the lake turns into pasture. The drying up of this lake is caused by the connection of an underground river that causes water to come and disappear.

3.1.4 Limestone (*Gamping*)

Around Tarusan Lake, especially in the lower reaches of the lake, there is limestone. This makes it

unique because usually limestone is found in coastal areas. Based on the results of research conducted by geologists, it shows that hundreds of centuries ago this tarusan kamang lake was once a former ocean. This downstream area can be used for various kinds of educational activities such as research in geology, soil, and water.



Fig 3. Limestone

3.1.5 Batu Kucing

Batu Kucing is located in the lower reaches of the lake. This stone is shaped like a cat. Giving the name to this stone because it looks like a cat. There is no literature that explains the legend of the cat stone in Lake Tarusan Tourism Object. But scientifically, this rock was formed due to erosion by lake water.

3.1.6 Banyan Tree

A pile of trees full of mounds of earth in the middle of a puddle of lake water. When the water appears and pools so wide. No matter how high and big the water is, the banyan tree in the middle of this island is never submerged by water. The trees and groves of roots seem to float on the surface of the water.

3.1.7 Pupukan (water hole)

Pupukan (water hole) is a hole located in the rock crevice around the corner of the lake. This water hole is the cause of the disappearance of lake water into the bowels of the earth. In addition, in Lake Tarusan there is a fault zone in the eastern part of Sumatra, so that is one of the reasons the water comes and dries up.



Fig. 4. Pupukan

3.1.8 Padang Doto

Padang Doto is a large pile of land like an island located in the middle of a lake. This doto field has Green grass and has the beauty of a banyan tree. For visitors who want to go to Padang doto, they use raft transportation.



Fig. 5. Padang Doto

3.1.9 Manyorong

Manyorong is a tradition carried out by local people when the lake water begins to shrink. When the lake water begins to shrink there are various types of fish. Usually when pushing fish species caught are monitors which are endemic to Lake Tarusan.



Fig. 6. Manyorong

3.2 Potential Development of Lake Tarusan Tourism Object

3.2.1 Facilities and Infrastructure

Tourist facilities are supporting facilities to facilitate tourists in tourism activities [3]. Enjoying a tourist attraction, facilities are a supporting factor that greatly affects the arrival of visitors to a tourist attraction. [9-11]. Therefore, the facility has a very important role to facilitate and serve the tourists who visit a tourist destination. The development of facilities for Lake Tarusan tourism requires facilities, including service posts, security posts, guard posts, accommodation, places to eat, parking places, shopping places. Development of infrastructure for the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction through the provision of clean water channels, electricity supply for street lighting, circulation network that connects

the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction, waste disposal and sanitation that accommodates the activities of tourists playing water and swimming in the lake, the availability of washrooms and washrooms. near the lake and stalls are facilities that are needed by visitors to tourist attractions.

3.2.2 Tarusan Lake Accommodation

Lake Tarusan attractions include natural attractions. although it is known as a natural tourist destination, it does not provide facilities for tourists to stay. The Lake Tarusan tourist attraction still has a lack of facilities and accommodation, currently there are only places to eat and drink in the form of small stalls and rental of traditional raft equipment and small boats as a means of transporting the lake. From the results of the survey in the field, there are accommodation facilities in the form of small huts. However, at this time the end of the Lake Tarusan Tourist attraction has decreased drastically so that there is no maintenance fee that causes the huts to be abandoned. Downstream and Lake Tarusan there is an area of green meadow that is often used by visitors to camp when the lake water is low so that the use of the area is only for setting up tents with grassy soil conditions and neatly arranged. This is considered a tourist attraction not enough to support it as a leading natural tourist destination. Therefore, at the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction, it is necessary to develop adequate facilities and accommodation while taking into account local cultural values.

3.2.3 Accessibility and Transportation

In tourism activities, transportation facilities are very important to support activities moving from one place/tourism attraction to another [9]. To get to the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction, from Bukittinggi City use land transportation such as angkot cars, motorbikes, etc. Travel time by car is 15 minutes while using a motorbike is 20 minutes.

3.2.4 Hospitality and Security

The community around the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction is friendly to tourists who visit the tourist attraction. Visitors who visit respect local wisdom and rules to be obeyed by visitors who come, such as not wearing clothes that are too revealing when in public places, not allowing non-mahram visitors to be alone in a quiet place. Theft is very rare in the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction. Therefore, for tourists who will visit the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction, it is made safe and comfortable. Visitors need not hesitate to travel. Besides the friendly community, they are always ready to accept the presence of tourists, both local and foreign.

4. CONCLUSION

The identification results show that the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction has the potential as a natural tourist destination and has various unique characteristics based on its potential. Analysis of the carrying capacity of Lake Tarusan tourism object needs to be taken into account in a policy for developing sustainable tourism objects by considering the available area and the size of the standard for visitor needs. Thus, the Tarusan Lake tourist attraction is maintained in its nature and sustainability. Besides that, further research is needed for the development of tourism in tourist areas in determining the facilities and space at the location of the Lake Tarusan tourist attraction.

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