

Maritime Security Strategy In Facing Illegal Fishing In Riau Province Indonesia

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Abstract

Riau Province has the potential of abundant marine resources, thus placing Riau in a maritime threat, especially illegal fishing which causes the country to suffer losses. This happens because this marine potential has not been utilized optimally so that it is exploited by foreign fishermen. This study will discuss the strategy of the Department of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DKP) of Riau Province to eradicate illegal fishing in Riau seas. The research argument is to involve local communities, improve human resources and technical skills, carry out patrols. The method in this research is descriptive qualitative research, with data collection techniques, namely interviews with DKP Riau Province, and literature studies, with the aim of knowing the right strategies in dealing with illegal fishing in Riau Province in supporting maritime security. This study reveals that the strategy needed is to increase the number of human resources and infrastructure for monitoring seas. Optimizing Community Monitoring Groups (Pokmaswas) which are social institutions by involving coastal communities and fishermen in assisting the government to safeguard and prevent threats to Indonesia's marine resources, enforce strict laws, and increase marine patrols.

Keywords: *Illegal Fishing, Maritime Security Strategy, Pokmaswas*

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia's geographical condition, the archipelago state formed of many islands and directly borders with a several countries in Southeast Asia, this position makes Indonesia faced many threats and challenges. The strategic value of Indonesia's cross position, besides having opportunities, on the one hand also poses a threat to the sovereignty of Indonesia. The marine and fisheries potential of Riau Province consists of 21,478 km² with a coastline length of 2,713 km, and with a total of 57,607 fishermen. Fisheries Management Area (Wilayah Pengelolaan Perikanan/WPP) 571 (Malacca Strait and Andaman Sea) has a sustainable potential of 425,444 tons with an allocation for Riau province of 36,809 tons. WPP 711 (Karimata Strait, Natuna Sea and South China Sea) has a sustainable potential of 767,126 tons with an allocation of 32,742 tons for Riau Province. Until 2020, the utilization rate of WPP 571 and 711 is only 11.31% (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan, 2022). These potentials come from aquaculture, fisheries and marine space management. From what has been described, it proves that Riau Province has abundant marine resource potential. However, it needs to be utilized more optimally so that it can generate income for the state and also benefit the people of Riau Province. But at the same time, Indonesia's maritime territory also plays a role as a place for potential maritime security threats, such as piracy, IUU fishing violations, armed crimes and so on. On a global scale, activity at sea is still quite high. The role of the government and law enforcement is so important in eradicating all threats to maritime security in Indonesia. With the geographical conditions of Riau Province which are strategic and rich in marine resources, Riau Province faces maritime threats, especially illegal fishing. Cases of illegal fishing that are rife in Indonesia's maritime territory are known to cause state losses of around 101 trillion each year.

The illegal fishing occurs because local fishermen only take fishes in the potential of the sea from 0 to 5 miles, the rest has not been utilized Indonesia's territory optimally, this is

because the size of the fishermen's boats (GT) is small enough so that the impact on fishing coverage is also narrow, not only that this is because there is no fishing port in the Riau region which results in no place to land fish which makes fishermen sell their catch in the middle of the sea (unreported). Riau Province has areas that are prone to illegal fishing is the Malacca Strait and the surrounding waters (Rani, 2019), which borders neighboring countries such as Vietnam, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, and others, if this is allowed to continue it will have an impact on decreasing the amount of fish that can be caught by local fishermen. This study has arguments regarding matters for overcoming illegal fishing activities, such as coordinating with local communities, non-state actors, coastal communities and fishermen, besides increasing human resources and improving work techniques, and law enforcement is carried out strictly by giving appropriate sanctions with violations committed, conducting patrols or inspections, detection, arrest, reporting and imposing sanctions.

Based on this, this article wants to discuss issues related to maritime security strategies that can be carried out in the territorial waters of Riau Province to overcome Illegal Fishing, this research aims to obtain things regarding the right strategy in dealing with illegal fishing to support maritime security.

RESEARCH METHODS

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative research. A qualitative approach is a method that is widely used to analyze and understand problems that arise from both individuals and groups (Creswell, 2007). While descriptive research is based on the basic question "how" so that researchers can obtain holistic answers by knowing several variables related to the research problem. This research using data collection techniques, such as interviews and literature studies. Literature research or literature review (literature review, literature research) is research that examines or critically reviews knowledge, ideas, or findings contained in academic-oriented literature, and formulates theoretical and methodological contributions for certain topics. , (Cooper, 2010). Literature study is carried out by collecting data and sources related to the things studied in a study. This research took place in Riau Province and was conducted online, namely interviews with the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service of Riau Province. While the literature study was obtained from documents provided by the Riau Province Maritime and Fisheries Service. The research subject is a thing, object or person being studied, that is the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service of Riau Province. After the required data has been collected, then a descriptive analysis is carried out, that is the process of decomposing the data that has been obtained, then explaining it so the reader can be understand the explanation. The data analysis technique in this study uses the Miles and Huberman approach, which includes data collection, data reduction, data presentation, conclusions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Illegal Fishing in Riau Province

Illegal fishing that occurs in the Indonesian seas is dominated by foreign fishing vessels originating from countries in Southeast Asia and also China. If seen from Indonesia's strategic choke points , which are often passed by ships carrying various world trade commodities, such as the Malacca Strait, Lombok Strait, and Makassar Strait, the value of which is estimated to reach 1500 trillion every year (Nainggolan, 2015). Areas that are very potential and prone to Illegal Fishing in Riau Province, Indonesia are the Malacca Strait and the surrounding waters

(Rani, 2019), so the Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP) seeks to resolve this problem by arresting and following up on foreign fishermen who commit acts fish theft in the territorial waters of Riau.

In January 2022, DKP has arrested two fishing boats carrying out illegal fishing activities in Riau Province. Matters regarding cases of illegal fishing , such as:

1. Possessing, controlling, carrying, and/or using fishing gear and/or fishing aids that disturb and damage the sustainability of fish resources on fishing vessels in the Indonesia's fishery management area.
2. Own and/or operate fishing vessels with the Indonesian flag to catch fish in the Indonesian State fishery management area and/or on the high seas that do not have SIKPI.
3. Own and/or operate fishing vessels with a foreign flag to catch fish in the Indonesia Exclusive Economic Zone that do not have SIKPI.
4. Own and/or operate fish transporting vessels in the fishery management area of the State of Indonesia that carry fish or related activities that do not have SIKPI.
5. Violation of licensing provisions for doing business in the marine and fisheries sector.

illegal fishing cases that occurred in 2018, some of which did not have fishing permit documents; carry out fishing for terubuk fish (*Tenualosa Macrura*) which has been regulated by Ministerial Decree Number 59/MEN/2011 concerning Determination of Limited Protection Status for Terubuk Fish Species. In 2019 there were 9 cases of fishing without an Andon license (without Andon SIKPI). In 2020 there were 3 cases including SIKPI and SIUP from North Sumatra Province and their validity period had expired; carry out fishing in Indonesia territory (WPPNRI) using prohibited fishing gear without being equipped with a permit. In 2021 there were 6 cases including fishing in Indonesia territory (WPPNRI) using prohibited fishing gear without a permit.

Illegal fishing that often occurs in Riau Province coupled with the use of trawls by foreign fishing boats is certainly detrimental to Indonesia. The use of trawl nets in illegal fishing can be harmful to marine biota and damage the marine and fisheries ecosystem in Riau Province. Foreign vessels carrying out illegal fishing activities in the Malacca Strait include Malaysia, Vietnam, Myanmar, and other neighboring countries which have direct borders with Indonesia.

According to Bueger, maritime security has become a "buzzword" nowadays because various parties do not sufficiently explain what this means and is intended for (Bueger, 2014). Through the maritime security matrix, according to Bueger, there are 4 concepts related to maritime security, namely sea power , economic development , human security , and maritime safety . The concept of economic development, the oceans have a vital economic importance. Trade is conducted by sea and fishing is a significant industry. The commercial value of the oceans is being increasingly re-evaluated because of the economic potential of offshore resources, centralized fossil energy and seabed mining, and the economic promise of coastal tourism. The blue economy concept is related to maritime security because a sustainable management strategy requires not only enforcement and monitoring of laws and regulations, but a safe maritime environment provides prerequisites for managing marine resources (Bueger, 2014).

In this case the fishermen of Riau Province have not utilized the marine and fishery potential in Riau Province up to the 12 mile Indonesia Exclusive Economic Zone area, where fishing is usually only carried out at a distance of 0 to 5 miles, so the potential for abundant marine resources in Riau Province, has not been optimally exploited and worked on which has led to many cases of violations such as illegal fishing carried out by foreign fishermen in Riau waters which are very open and directly adjacent to the territory of neighboring countries.

Strategy for Dealing with *Illegal Fishing*

Indonesia needs to strengthen maritime security cooperation in terms of managing maritime resources, Indonesia as a middle power country certainly still has limitations in terms of budgetary resources and human resources. It is appropriate for Indonesia to develop warm and strategic cooperation with other countries in the region in strengthening relations and maintaining security.

a) Law and Policy Enforcement

In overcoming the problem of illegal fishing, the government must be firm with existing marine and fishery policies. If there is a violation of illegal fishing, the government needs to implement zero tolerance. The policies that form the basis for following up on illegal fishing cases in Riau Province are:

1. Law 11 of 2020 concerning Job Creation.
2. Law 23 of 2014 concerning Regional Government.
3. Law 45 of 2009 concerning Amendments to Law Number 31 2004 concerning Fisheries.
4. Government Regulation Number 05 of 2021 concerning Licensing Based Endeavor.
5. Government Regulation Number 27 of 2021 concerning Field Implementation Maritime Affairs and Fisheries.
6. Regulation of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Number 19 of 2020 concerning Prohibitions on the Import, Cultivation, Distribution and Export of Fish Species that are Harmful and/or Harmful.
7. Regulation of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Number 47 of 2020 concerning Implementation of Fisheries Supervisory Duties.
8. Regulation of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Number 10 of 2021 Standards for Business Activities and Products for Risk-Based Business Licensing Providers in the Maritime and Fisheries Sector.
9. Regulation of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Number 23 of 2021 concerning Proper Standards Operation and Monitoring System of Fishing Vessels.
10. Regulation of the Minister of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Number 31 of 2021 concerning Imposition of Administrative Sanctions in the Maritime and Fisheries Sector.
11. Regional Regulation Number 5 of 2017 concerning Capture Fisheries Business Permits.

The Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service of Riau Province needs to show more firmness in taking action against perpetrators of illegal fishing and various violations in the marine and fisheries sector. This is necessary in order to minimize *illegal fishing crimes* and protect marine resources in supporting maritime security.

b) Human Resources, Technical Work and Infrastructure

The Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP) also needs to improve the Human Resources and Infrastructure of the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service, currently it is known that the SDKP supervisors are 6 civil servant, 3 Special Police, 10 Supervisory Posts. In terms of catching and monitoring efforts, the Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP) is still experiencing difficulties due to a lack of human resources and lack of adequate facilities and infrastructure in surveillance operations at sea. So that it is not possible to optimally carry out pursuit and arrest operations for foreign fishing vessels. This is because foreign fishing boats have more modern specifications than the surveillance vessels owned by the Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP), which only use one unit of surveillance speedboats that are considered old to chase vessels that carry out *illegal fishing activities*. This surveillance ship has been in

operation since 2007, this shows that the conditions for the implementation of supervision and enforcement by the Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP) in carrying out surveillance at sea are inadequate and not optimal. If compared to the extent of the waters of Riau Province. Therefore, in terms of monitoring the vast Riau sea area, it is necessary to increase human resources and also be supported by the provision of infrastructure, such as surveillance ships to optimize sea security.

c) Local Communities and Non-state Actors

Optimizing the implementation of social institutions formed by the Directorate General of Maritime and Fisheries Resources Supervision (PSDKP) of the Ministry of Maritime Affairs and Fisheries, namely Community Monitoring Groups (Pokmaswas), which is a form of community participation, especially fishermen and coastal communities in helping the government to guard and prevent threat to Indonesia's marine resources. The main task of Pokmaswas is to supervise, monitor and guard marine and fishery resources in accordance with their capabilities and authority as a community that is more aware of the environmental conditions around it. Pokmaswas is an official organization whose legality is issued through a Decree by the local Provincial Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Maulana Anta, 2018). Lack of human resources in supervision, Pokmaswas was brought in to assist the government in monitoring fisheries and maritime violations, one of which was in Riau Province. In this case the DKP of Riau Province explained that several people passed coaching as supervisors as supervisory staff in Riau Province. The number of Pokmaswas in the marine and fisheries sector in Riau Province in 2020 is 86 groups which are active in guarding the waters namely, Bengkalis 8 groups, Indragiri Hilir 14 groups, Indragili Hulu 3, Kampar 14 groups, Kep. Meranti 5 groups, Kuantan Singingi 10 groups, Pelalawan 17 groups, Rokan Hilir 4 groups, Rokan Hulu 3 groups, Siak 2 groups, Siak 2 groups, Dumai 5 groups, Pekanbaru 1 group.

In its implementation, each Pokmaswas is given the facility of a cell phone to report any violations or other matters related to fisheries crimes to the supervisor. This reporting can be done either through the "Pokmaswas SMS gateway" or it can also be directly to officers who are met at sea or on land. Regarding the substance of the violation report that was reported by Pokmaswas regarding the location of the violation, time of occurrence, form of violation, identity of the perpetrator, witnesses who saw the violation, and chronology of the violation (PSDKP KKP, 2017).

The task of this Pokmaswas is to monitor if there are indications that show activities that are detrimental to the waters and the community, one of which is illegal fishing. In this case, Pokmaswas does not make arrests, prosecutions, and so on, but only reports violations and acts of harm to the sea to the Directorate General of Maritime and Fisheries Resources Supervision (PSDKP), marine police, Indonesian Navy. Pokmaswas plays an important role in monitoring criminal acts in the waters of Riau Province. The average operational results of the Riau Province are reports from the Pokmaswas. Seeing the optimal operation of surveillance through Pokmaswas, the Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP) provide guidance with a period of once a year. In addition to coaching, DKP Riau Province and Pokmaswas are regularly in touch by communicating online discussing problems in the field that are often encountered in the field. With the existence of a monitoring community group, DKP can more quickly obtain information and conditions for violations that exist at sea. The community is in the location or the local community so that the community can directly monitor and see information that is happening in their environment. Pokmaswas can minimize violations in the waters of Riau Province. With the Pokmaswas in Riau Province, it can help the government minimize illegal fishing violations.

d) Fishermen Empowerment

Utilization of Natural Resources in Riau is due to the lack of state budget from the government. If it can be budgeted for, it can be used for the welfare of fishing communities. Given the condition of the majority of fishing communities still living in poverty, the existing budget can be used to provide boat assistance for fishermen, fishing gear, and assistance to fishermen. On average fishermen in Riau Province do not have the technology to detect areas where there are lots of fish, by providing fishing gear and boats above 5GT for fishermen, it will allow fishermen to go farther and take longer time so that they catch more fish, then building a port is also needed so as to minimize the occurrence of unreported fishing and fishermen and coastal communities can also be empowered to plant mangroves.

e) Inter-Agency Synergy

Then synergy with other agencies is needed in carrying out surveillance operations in Riau waters, the Riau Province Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (Dinas Kelautan dan Perikanan/DKP) is working with other government agencies for a more optimal surveillance and arrest process, this is due to the lack of facilities and infrastructure owned by the Riau DKP. Joint patrols for the supervision of marine and fisheries resources are carried out in collaboration with the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service, marine police, Indonesian navy, and also police. In addition to supervision, in terms of investigations of criminal acts in fisheries it is also carried out in collaboration with other agencies such as the Maritime Fisheries Service, the Belawan KKP RI PSDKP Station, the Riau Regional Police Corps. A cooperation agreement was signed in monitoring marine and fisheries resources between the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service and the Belawan KKP RI PSDKP Station. Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service of Riau Province and other agencies to enforce Regional Regulation Number 5 of 2017 (Peraturan Daerah Nomor 5 tahun 2017) concerning Capture Fisheries Business Permits. This concerns the operation of checking the legal permits of operating fishing vessels. The DKP is not provided with weapons to deal with people who resist when they are prosecuted, in this case it is the Police that can handle cases like this.

CONCLUSION

Riau Province has abundant marine resource potential and has areas prone to illegal fishing. The problem is illegal fishing. Illegal fishing is a maritime threat that occurs in Riau waters by foreign fishing vessels originating from countries in Southeast Asia, to China. This illegal fishing action places Indonesia at a loss of up to 101 trillion each year. This is because the fishermen of Riau Province have not utilized the marine and fishery potential in Riau Province up to the 12 mile EEZ area, where fishing is usually only carried out at a distance of 0 to 5 miles, so the potential for abundant marine resources in Riau Province, has not been exploited and worked on optimally which led to the occurrence of many cases of violations such as illegal fishing carried out by foreign fishermen. The government through the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service (DKP) of Riau Province is trying to solve this problem by arresting and following up on foreign fishermen who commit acts of illegal fishing in Riau waters. The maritime security strategy for dealing with Illegal Fishing by the Riau Marine Fisheries Service consists of implementing policies related to maritime security by providing strict sanctions to minimize illegal fishing crimes and safeguard marine resources, increase human resources present in the field, lack of positions in institutions filled with additional human resources and technical equipment such as infrastructure must pay more attention to make it possible to optimally carry out pursuit and arrest operations for foreign fishing vessels, then by empowering fishermen, coastal communities to local communities, namely communities in Pokmaswas or Community Monitoring Groups, which is a form of community

participation, especially fishermen and coastal communities in helping the government to maintain and prevent threats to Indonesia's marine resources, and DKP also synergizes or cooperates with other agencies in the context of monitoring the sea of Riau Province from *illegal fishing* actors.

The cooperation between DKP Riau and other government agencies for the monitoring and arrest process was carried out due to the lack of facilities and infrastructure owned by DKP Riau Province. Joint patrols for the supervision of marine and fisheries resources are carried out together with the Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Service, police, Indonesian navy, marine police. Researchers in this case provide advice to the Government to be able to continue to pay attention to the Riau Province region, considering that this region has abundant natural resources. The potentials of the Riau Province itself have not been optimally utilized, both in terms of the fishermen's ability to sail to catch fish up to the EEZ line, as well as facilities and infrastructure such as adequate boats. The government is expected to be able to provide facilities and infrastructure to both fishermen for the process of taking fish up to 12 miles of ZEE, as well as ships used by the Riau DKP for the technical process of surveillance operations in protecting water areas from *illegal fishing crimes* and protecting marine ecosystems. The government can also make more use of other local communities who are at sea, such as diving groups, and other non-governmental organizations, to be able to contribute to tasks that are traditionally only associated with the work of state institutions, resulting in illegal fishing incidents, and violations *that* occur at sea by foreign ships can be immediately identified and acted upon by the authorities. Apart from that, the use of existing information technology can be considered as a solution, such as for the detection of ships entering the EEZ area which can be known in real-time *and* then the use of technology for state reporting, so that *illegal fishing incidents* and violations that occur at sea by ships Foreigners can be immediately identified and acted upon by the authorities.

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