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## **USM Ecological Survey On Mangrove Forests: A Case Study of Balik**

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Tajuk : Ecological Survey On Mangrove Forests: A Case Study of Balik Pulau and Pantai Acheh  
Pengarang : Mashhor Mansor/ Mohd Yunus Zakaria  
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Summary:

Mangrove swamps are one of the important types of natural wetlands found in the intertidal zone of tropical and subtropical regions of the world. It is definitely a dynamic ecosystem inhabited by a complex assemblage of flora and fauna. The Balik Pulau and Pantai Acheh Mangrove Forests are among wetland ecosystems crucial for assuring diverse biodiversity and fishing ground of Penang Island. Despite being relatively small, their significant role in providing a conducive habitat for several totally protected species, including the White Bellied Sea Eagle ( *Haliaeetus leucogaster* ), cannot be denied. The mangrove plant communities provide the most basic foundation to support all higher level organisms, including consumers and higher predators. Thus destruction of the ecosystem, particularly of the plan colonies, probably leads to destabilization of the whole unique system. This publication intends to generate significant interest in conserving the fragile ecosystem, from public and government agencies.

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