

CORAL CURRENT

The Newsletter of The Coral Reef Alliance



Working Together to Keep Coral Reefs Alive

SAVING RAJA AMPAT

Mining and Fishing Threaten Raja's Reefs Can Tourism Fees Help Protect Them?

Overwhelmingly beautiful. Cruising the crystal waters of Raja Ampat, Indonesian Field Representative—

verse areas on the planet. As with the

Newman explains that, "the govern-

ment is under pressure to provide for its people. It is easy to see why they consider selling commercial mining

Financing for the Future of Raja Ampat

with tourism fees.

Tourism fees—fees that a visitor

Previously, Raja Ampat tried to introduce a tourism fee of approximately US \$20. However, some of the local communities never received their share. In addition, the creators of the

Trouble in Paradise

As a result of never having received

the expected tourism fee money due, own hands. They charged visitors and dive operators directly for using their reef. In most cases this was done

CORAL Solutions

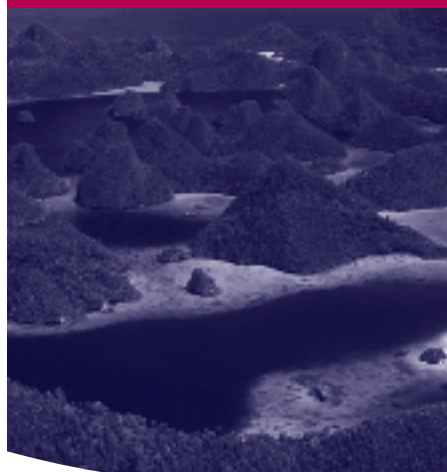
structured completely. Consensus

In March and April of this year, CORAL not only held trainings for

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ing and mining rights that could destroy



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CORAL Publishes World's First Regional Sustainable Marine Recreation Standards

Standards done right

CORAL, the International Coral FYYZ5Vjcb B Yk cf_žUbXh Ya Uf]bY recreation industry in Mesoamerica UFYWYFUHj b['h Ydi V]Whjcb'cZh Y ÚghYj Yf'fY]cbU'ghUUXgZcf'g'g HJ]bUV'Ya Uf]bYfYWU]cb"

5g'h]g[fci bXVfYU_]b['ghd'hcK UFX protecting the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef rolls out this summer, scores of gWVU'UbX'a Uf]bYfYWU]cb'Vi gl- nesses are gearing up to improve their operations.

8]j Yžgbcf_YžUbX'VcUhVi glbYggYg' contracting with the cruise line industry in Cozumel have opened their doors to a CORAL assessment of their environmental performance.

Using the standards, CORAL will evaluate the environmental and safety UgdYwg'cZh Yf'Vi glbYgg'dfUM]Wg''5' list of recommendations and trainings to help companies to improve their operations will follow.

Gi ghU]bUVYVi glbYgg'ghUUXg' reduce recreational overuse and misuse of reefs. The standards also]bWYUg'WfU'ŋ'fygghU'W'hc'ch Yf' stressors, such as pollution, disease, UbXcj Yf'Ug\]b["

As testing and adoption moves to Guatemala, Belize, and Honduras, the tourism industry throughout the A Yg'Ua Yf]Wb FYYZk]''VW'a YU'fi Y partner in conservation.

SAVING RAJA AMPAT (continued from cover)

preliminarily approved this proposal UbXk]''j chYcb'h YdfcdgU'ŋ'cZUM' law status as early as July 2007.

The proposal includes a Bupati-appointed committee comprising all ghU_Y'c'Xf'g'z]bW X]b['fYdfYgYbHU tives from the local community, tour-]ga 'Vi fYU ž6i dU] 'cZUMž'Ug' Yf]Ygž dive operators, traditional religious 'YUXf'g'z'UbX'c'W' bcb]dfcU'hc[]b]nU tions. The proposal also ensures that the local community receives a fair share of the proceeds.

F]W'A UMD\ Yfgcbž7CF5@Dfc[fUa ' 8]fW'cfz'ghU'gž'17CF5@'_bck g'Zca ' experience that marine protected UFYUg'bYX'g' ghU]bUVY'UbU'Vb['hc' succeed. They also need community support. I am excited to see this mo- a Ybhi a]'b'FUU'5a dU] 'Ci f'k'cf'_ with partner, Conservation Interna- h]cbUžk]''\ Yd'fU]gY'h Yei U]]hmcZ life for Raja Ampat communities, as kY''Ug'dfchW]b['cbYcZh Yk cf'X'g' most pristine reefs."

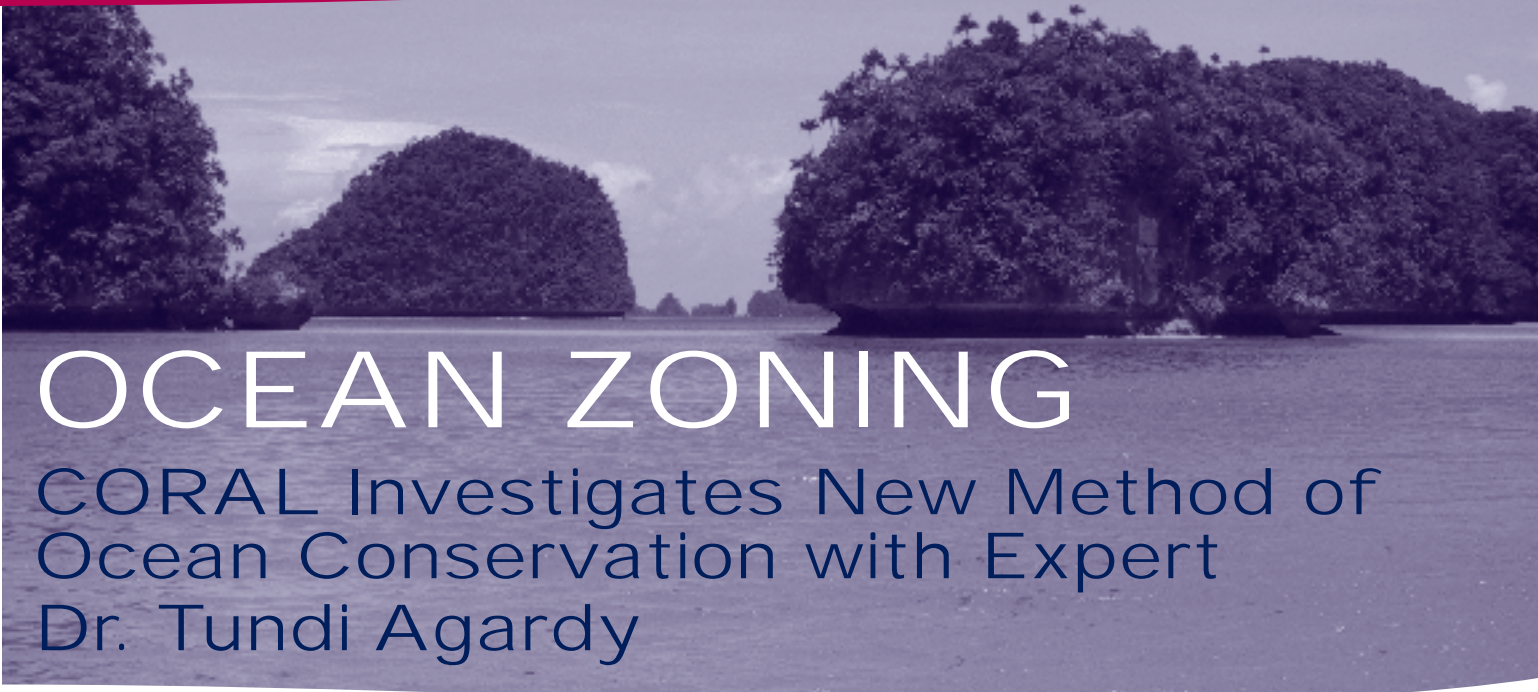
Proposed Raja Ampat Tourism Fee Distribution and Usage

70% Community Development and Conservation, such as:

- Research, monitoring, and cataloging of species and reef health
- Patrolling to prevent poaching and destructive shing
- Funding for nurses and supplies at mobile mother and baby's clinic

30% Government

To be determined annually by Raja Ampat government of ces



OCEAN ZONING

CORAL Investigates New Method of Ocean Conservation with Expert Dr. Tundi Agardy

Change. We embrace it. We fear it. What changes are coming in marine conservation? And will we be ready for them?

Scientists have said that marine understanding and use of reefs grows, but will they also mature?

Ocean Zoning and Marine Protected Areas

In a conversation with Dr. Tundi Agardy, CORAL explores her recent article "Ocean Zoning is Coming." Dr. Agardy, a preeminent expert on marine protected areas (MPAs), explains the newest methods of marine conservation, ocean zoning. "Many MPAs only have one type of use: recreation and even industrial uses."

Agardy explains that ocean zoning integrates various methods already in use.

Determining Biophysical Status and Connectivity: This includes collecting data, such as

presence of rare or endemic species, reef health, presence of spawning ecosystems.

Measuring Levels and Types of Use: In most current marine conservation efforts, each sector individually determines levels of use from all sectors at one time.

Combining Ecological and Use Data: This allows managers to preserve the needs of all who rely on the reef for their livelihood. It is holistic and responds to real human needs.

Overcoming Resistance: MPAs and Standards a Good First Step

As logical as ocean zoning may sound, it is relatively unproven. Some

managed ocean zones as compared to standard protected areas. Still others resist the idea of regulating the "mystical and wild seas."

Although MPAs are not a necessary precursor to ocean zoning, the idea is becoming easier. Agardy says, "A successful MPA is similar to instituting zoning. Ocean zoning is a protected area."

Director, sees Standardized Codes of Use as a key to making zoning easier. These guidelines could serve as a model.

Agardy emphasizes our need to address rampant overdevelopment and comprehensive strategies that will widen and strengthen existing protected areas. Zoning is a logical progression from standard MPAs and marine protection. This will improve our chances for conservation success."

