

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**A HIDDEN GEM OF PERAK:  
CONSERVATION OF SUNGAI PERAK  
RIVERINE ECOTONE THROUGH  
LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY APPROACH  
AT SUNGAI PERAK,  
PERAK TENGAH**

**MUHAMMAD ZULKIFLY BIN WAN FADZILAH**

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## ABSTRACT

The objective of ecological conservation is the long-term maintenance of populations or species or, more broadly, of the Earth's biodiversity. Many of the threats that elicit conservation concern result in one way or another from human land use. Population sizes may become precariously small when suitable habitat is lost or becomes spatially fragmented, increasing the likelihood of extinction. The author reminisces the ecological aspect of riverine ecotone along Sungai Perak in conjunction with cultural value of local community towards protecting the ecosystem and tradition of Perak. The study area is located at part of the riverine ecotone of Sungai Perak from Parit to Bota. The significance of this study emphasized on the conservation and protection of Sungai Perak riverine ecotone and at the same time providing recreational space for the local community through the adoption of landscape ecology approach. In this study, the inventory and analysis process has been conducted and it focussed on the three attributes including the environmental, cultural and physical attributes. The data collected from the inventory are synthesized to identify the potential areas to be conserved and protected. Lastly, the final phase of this study will provide a landscape master plan and design proposal that contributes to the conservation of a riverine ecology, at the same time encourages community participation.

**Keywords:** *Conservation, river, riverine ecotone, landscape ecology, ecological landscape design, cultural preservation.*

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## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO TOPIC**

### **1.1 Introduction**

As the steward of the earth, we need to play our role to guarantee that our earth is ensured by joining our present and basic methods for living with more profound comprehension and regard of what nature has given. Environmental conservation describes that the manner in which we live is an impression of human's feeling towards the Mother Nature, and our day by day propensities indicate the amount we really esteem the things that the earth gives us. According to Kusler, J. (1989), there is growing enthusiasm among those intrigue and interest in managing ecological land area to specific area of interest, to take a gander at the whole river corridor area and its management towards the conservation of the biological community and environment.

The numerous miles of river and stream corridors are a portion of each country most profitable assets. In the early European settlement, rivers were utilized as a source of water for industry, circulation and transportation network, and a place to release wastes. The grounds adjacent to rivers possess imperative agricultural soils, wetlands, fish and untamed life natural surroundings, floodplains, historic communities, and places for recreation. In Asian country such as Malaysia, rivers or streams support agricultural activities in terms of their development and production. The most astounding level of water request in Malaysia is for irrigation system used by the agriculture sector as we realize that 97% of the water supply originates from waterways and streams (Global Environment Center, 2011). Other than that, the rivers or stream were important as the archaeological and heritage site. Some evidence shows that river became the primary choice of early society in migration.