

PUBLIC PERCEPTION ON THE UTILIZATION OF CISADANE WATERSHED NATURAL RESOURCES

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Abstract: Border communities in the upstream areas of the Cisadane watershed conduct a variety of activities in the utilization of the natural resources around them. This community interaction with natural resources also correlates with community perceptions of the watershed and resources that can be utilized by the community. The purpose of this study is to describe and explain the form of community interaction in the utilization of natural resources around the watershed and community perceptions about the watershed itself. This study uses a case study approach. Data was collected through questionnaires, in-depth interviews, and observations. The results showed that various forms of community interactions included a settlement area along a river border, micro-economic activities, land use for gardens, rice cultivation, and sand mining. Public perception towards these watersheds show that 30.76% understand about the broader concept of watersheds, while 50% of them do not yet understand about the utilization of the potential of natural resources around the watersheds. Government and related parties are expected to make various policies in the utilization of natural resources that uphold the aspect of sustainability of watershed functions.

Keywords: *interaction; perception; watershed; Ciapus sub watershed upstream*
