

A reaction paper on
the retrospective risk
assessment study of
lake Lanao aquatic...



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In his study, Tuddao analyzed some major threats on the fresh water biodiversity and proposed ways on how to preserve them.

He points out that degradation of the lake is very visible now with the decimation of its water quality. Indeed, water pollution is the major cause of the observed poor water quality of the Lake Lanao. In summary Lake Lanao is one of the most important inland bodies of water in the Philippines. It is considered the second largest inland aquatic resource and the biggest and deepest freshwater lake in the Philippines.

Noted as a pre-historic and socio-culturally significant lake known the world over, Lake Lanao still exudes its majestic and tranquil waters flourishing with great biodiversity of aquatic life forms. Through the years however, the lake has not been spared from various anthropogenic activities associated with the growing demand of the lake's resources- the water for domestic and agricultural use as well as for hydropower generation, contact recreation, boating, laundry and bathing, ritual use, water sports, fishes for domestic consumption and livelihood, and host of numerous lake's related uses. The degradation of the lake is very visible now with the decimation of its water quality. Some of the possible contributory to its water and biological life decay are: lack of proper solid waste management of communities and barangays around the lake, direct disposal of waste water from domestic sources, heavy siltation and sedimentation resulting from land development, deforestation, improper agricultural practices, and use of pesticides and insecticides.

The results of these environment- damaging activities clearly resulted to: increased of Bio-Chemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), low Dissolve Oxygen (DO), Increased coliform and heavy metal content of the lake's water and other water quality parameters such as salinity, pH, and acidity. The impact of degradation of the water quality of the lake has far reaching negative effect on the survival and reproduction of the aquatic ecosystem and its life forms that constitute the biodiversity of a living lake. Some of the Lake Lanao's fishes are endemic in the lake's water. However, human activities threatened to destroy its habitat and the population into extinction. III.

Analysis/Reactions It was clear that the author was trying to emphasize more on the possible threat on the biodiversity of the lake. What the author tries to convey are the ways on how human can lessen the threat to the lake's biodiversity. However, the author only focuses on the fishes, phytoplankton and zooplankton found on the lake to assess the quality of the lake. He did not focus more on microorganisms like bacteria as bioindicator of water quality. In this study, the author seems to overemphasize on how the government, private organizations, as well as the people on the nearby lake would take action to prevent worsening of the current state of the Lake Lanao. On the other hand, the author doesn't seem to be one-sided between whom to blame with the poor quality of water the Lake Lanao is now experiencing.

Instead, the author recommended ways on how the government and the people can work hand in hand in solving the problem. As a member of the ethnic group that surrounds the lake, issue on water pollution must not be neglected. Pollution of the lake must be taken seriously since it is through this <https://assignbuster.com/a-reaction-paper-on-the-retrospective-risk-assessment-study-of-lake-lanao-aquatic-environment/>

lake where we get source of hydroelectric power. Through this study, it made me realize of how important Lake Lanao is. It's not just about warning us of what dilemma water pollution may brought to us in the near future, it's about thinking also of how our individual actions can threaten biodiversity of the lake.

Recommendation Our individual actions can make a difference and of course commitment is a must. Although water pollution is a global problem, solutions must be local. As environmentalists would say, " Think globally, act locally. But we could not think lobally nor act locally if we lack environmental wisdom. If only the government, private organizations that aims to solve such problems and even us citizens would join force then we can help bring back the lake's condition. The government should invest more on researches on how to sustain the Lake Lanao.

In addition, the government should not focus only on band aids solutions or short term emergency actions but rather holistic approaches that are cheaper but are more efficient. There's a saying that " When the well's dry, we know the worth of water. " Residents also of the nearby lake are held liable of whatever damage they may cause.