

# **Update on the IMO - Norad Project Relating to the Identification and Designation of Malaysia's Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs)**



**9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE COOPERATION FORUM (CF-9), 41<sup>st</sup> MEETING OF THE TRIPARTITE TECHNICAL EXPERTS GROUP (TTEG-41), 9<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE PROJECT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (PCC-9)**

**YOGYAKARTA, 26 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

# Outline

- Introduction
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- Key environmental attributes and threats
- International shipping in the vicinity
- Consultations
- Associated Protective Measures
- Next steps and timeline
- Discussion

# Introduction

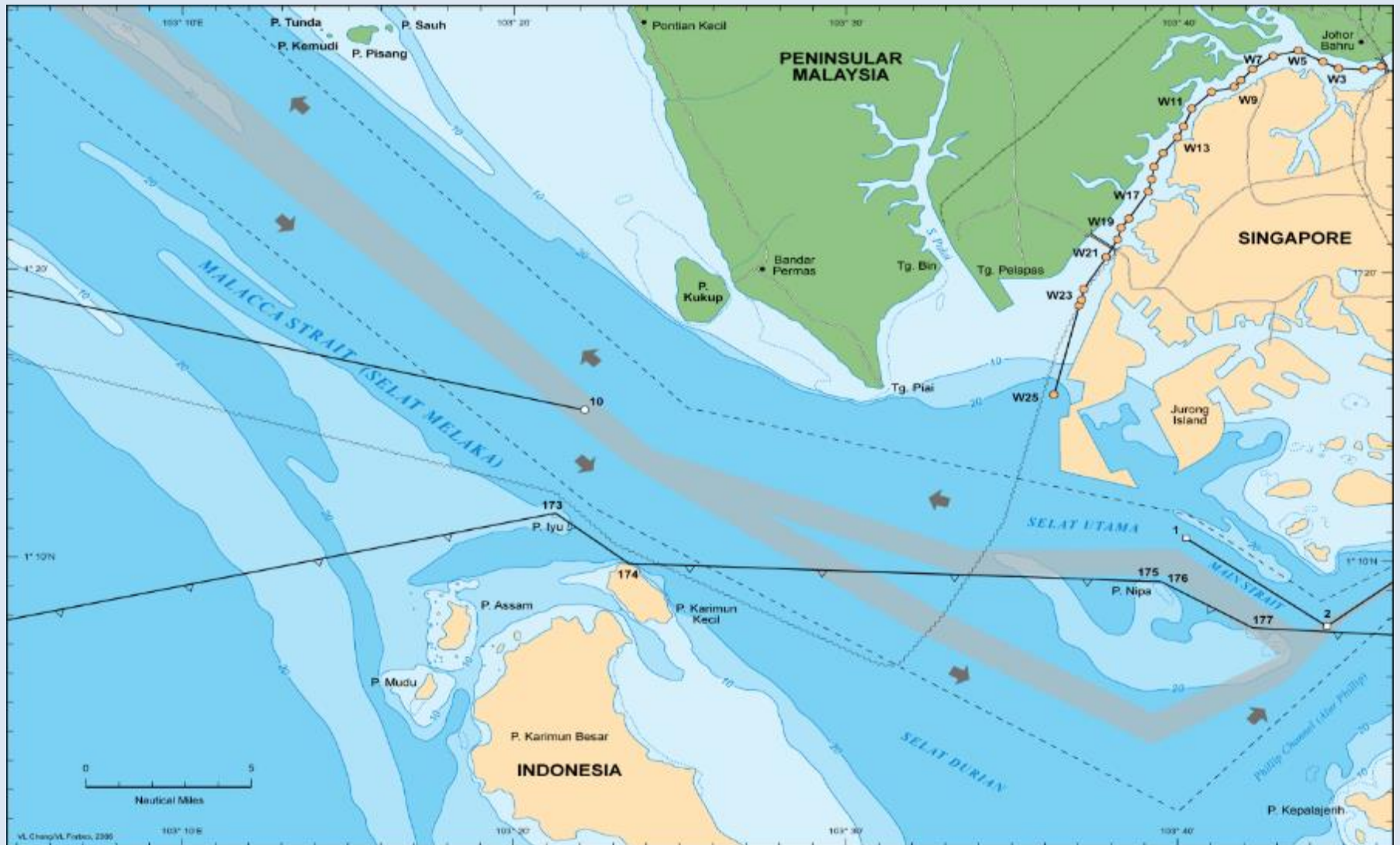
Malaysia's initiative under the framework cooperation agreement between IMO and the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) on the identification and designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS).

**The identified areas include Pulau Kukup (Kukup Island) and Tanjung Piai (Cape Piai) National Parks at the southern tip of Peninsular Malaysia.**

# Significance of the proposed areas

- Pulau Kukup - Tanjung Piai (PK – TP) are coastal protected areas in the Malaysian state of Johore and are located at the southern tip of Peninsular Malaysia.
- Both areas are legally gazetted as National Parks under the Johore State Park Corporation Enactment, 1989 and as **wetlands of international importance under the RAMSAR Convention 1971.**
- The primary ecosystems present in both areas are mangroves and intertidal mudflats which support significantly the fisheries, aquaculture, and tourism sectors.





## Location map of Pulau Kukup and Tanjung Piai

Source: Forbes, V.L and Basiron, M.N (2008)





CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

This is to certify that

*Tanjung Piai*

has been designated as a

## Wetland of International Importance

and has been included in the  
List of Wetlands of International Importance  
established by Article 2.1 of the Convention.

This is site No. 1259

Date of designation: *3 January 2005*

*Valeriy Blasco*  
Secretary General  
Convention on Wetlands



CONVENTION ON WETLANDS  
(Ramsar, Iran, 1971)

This is to certify that

*Pulau Kukup*

has been designated as a

## Wetland of International Importance

and has been included in the  
List of Wetlands of International Importance  
established by Article 2.1 of the Convention.

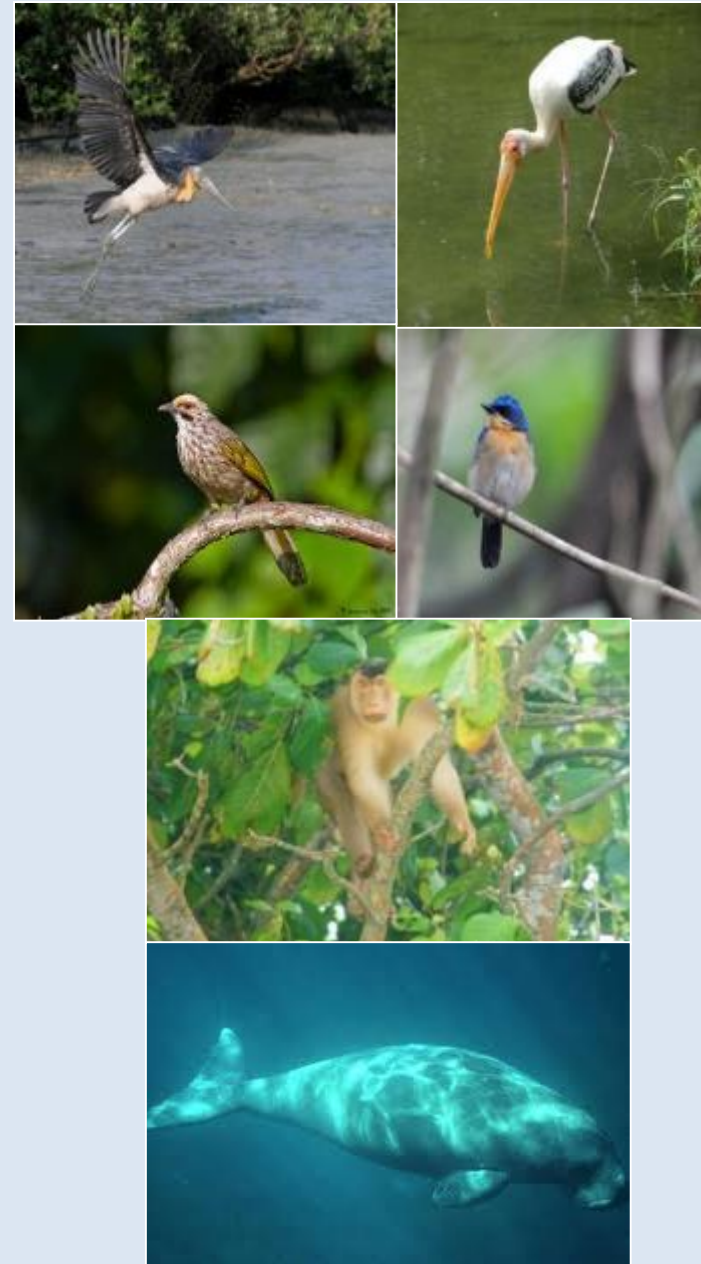
This is site No. 1257

Date of designation: *3 January 2005*

*Valeriy Blasco*  
Secretary General  
Convention on Wetlands

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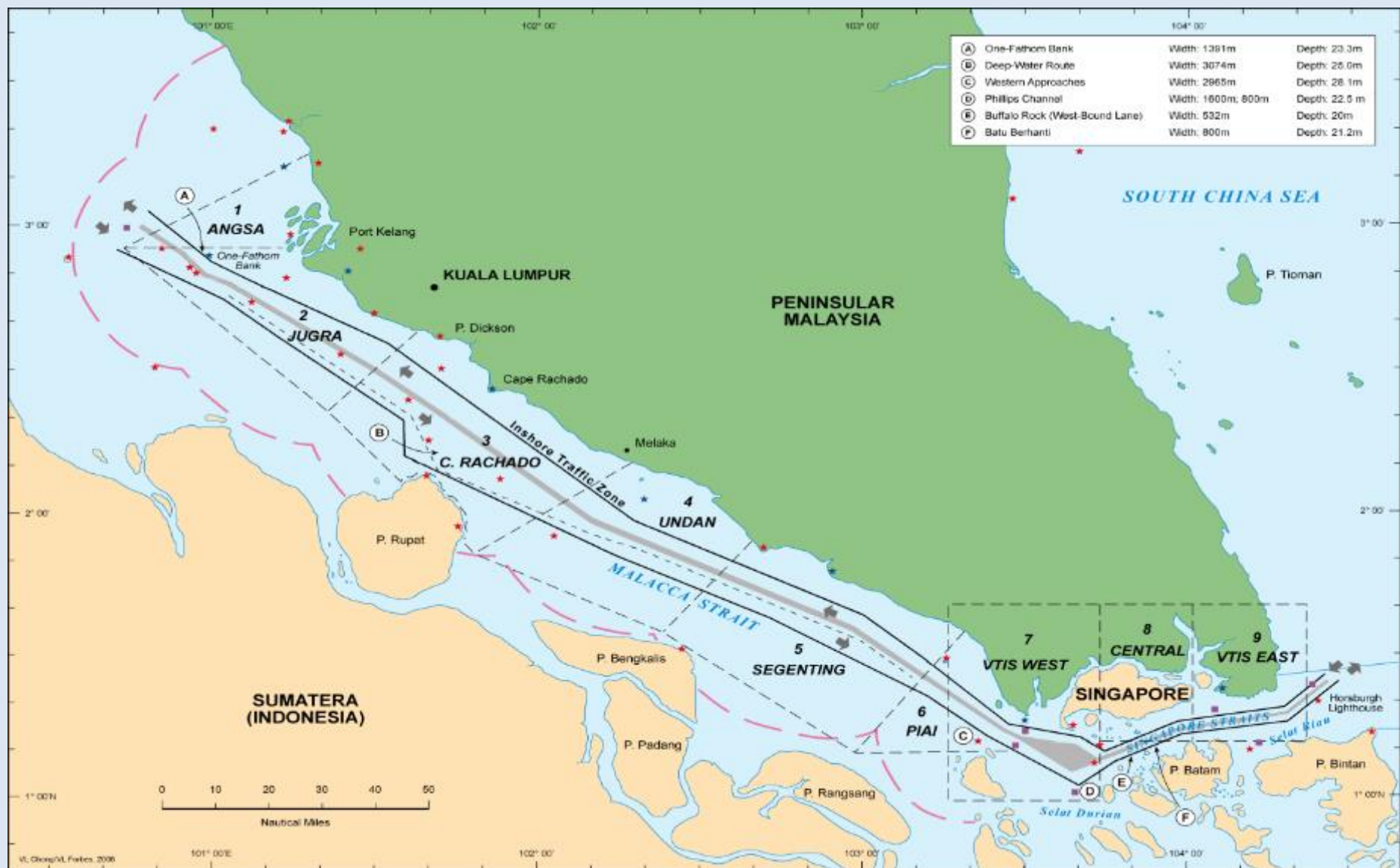
- These areas are home to vulnerable and endangered bird species as well as for migratory species of birds and endangered mammals.
- PK – TP are however subjected to heavy international shipping pressures as they are located in the narrow stretch of the SOM. The seaward mangrove area in Tanjung Piai is experiencing die-back and erosion possibly as a result of wave action from shipping activities near the area.
- The protection of the PK-TP area is crucial towards the protection of this continuum of important coastal ecosystems and the economic activities they support, including fishery and aquaculture.



# International shipping in the vicinity

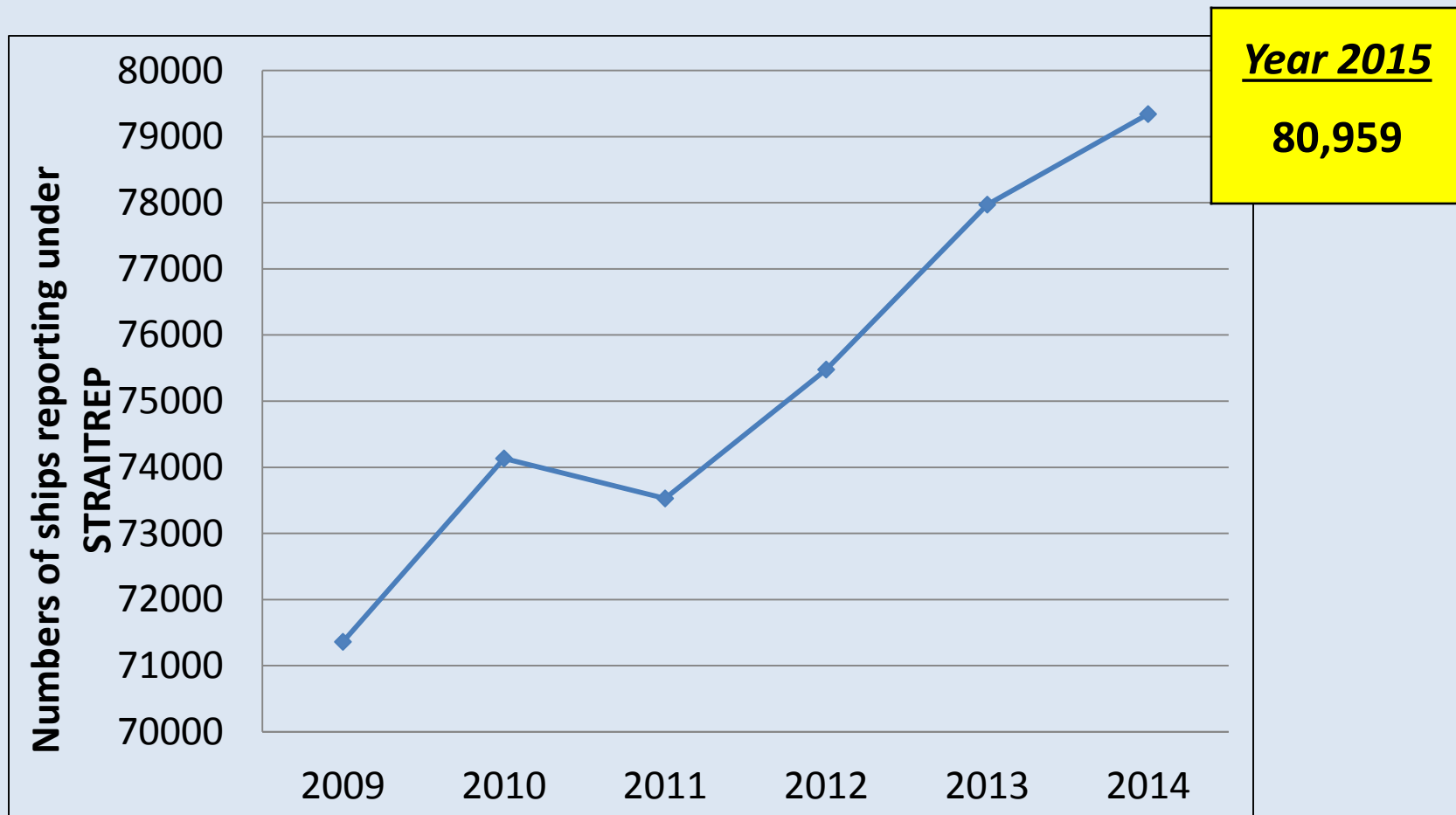
- PK-TP is located within the vicinity of the SOMS Traffic Separation Scheme (VTIS) and the Deepwater Route. This sector is one of the narrowest in SOMS and is also the entry point to the Port of Tanjung Pelepas and the Straits of Singapore.
- Besides the increasing number of eastbound vessels; these areas are risked from illegal discharge of oily waste, sewage and garbage from laid-up vessels and vessels waiting to enter ports in the area anchored within or near PK-TP.
- Additionally, there are emerging threats from the proposed development of the Tanjung Piai Integrated Petroleum and Petrochemical Hub which could potentially increase vessel traffic in the area.





## Traffic Separation Scheme, Deepwater Route and Inshore Traffic Zone in the SOMS

Source: Forbes, V.L and Basiron, M.N (2008)



**Numbers of ships reporting under STRAITREP (2009 – 2014)**

*Source: Marine Department Malaysia (2016)*

# Consultations

- Work in progress on designating PK-TP coastal protected areas as PSSAs as part of the framework cooperation agreement under IMO - Norad for the prevention of pollution from ships through the adoption of PSSAs within the East Asian region.
- Information paper presented at the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) 68<sup>th</sup> Session at IMO in March 2015.
- IMO-Norad Working Group Workshop in July in Vietnam 2015.
- Status update presented at the ASEAN Maritime Transport Working Group (MTWG) 30<sup>th</sup> Session Meeting in Cambodia in September 2015.

- Briefing and status update at the 40<sup>th</sup> Session Tripartite Technical Experts Group (TTEG) on Safety of Navigation in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS) Meeting in 2015.
- Highlight at the 8<sup>th</sup> MIMA International Conference on the SOM 'Revolving regional issues and their Impact on the SOM' in Kuala Lumpur in April 2016.
- Ongoing local and national consultations with related agencies and stakeholders.
- Intersessional meeting with Indonesia and Singapore in April 2016.
- Status report at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regional Meeting IMO – Norad PSSA Project in Lombok, Indonesia in July 2016.

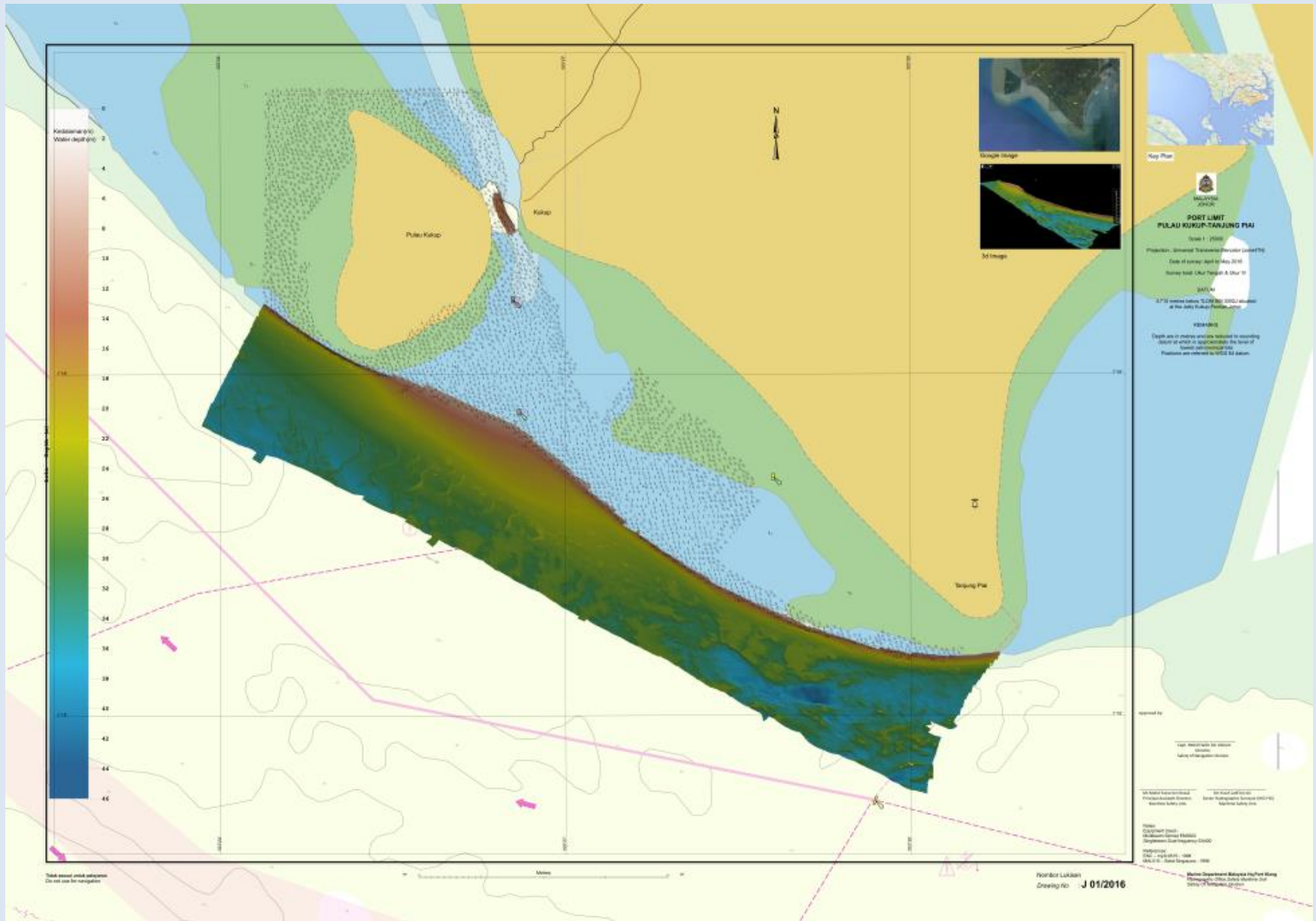
# The area and proposed APMs

- The proposed area is the Kukup Port Limit within the Malaysian waters and are bound by the dotted lines as shown in the chart.





- The proposed Associated Protection Measures (APMs) for the identified area would require all ships engaged in international navigation to adopt appropriate measures to avoid actions which might harm the ecological health of the area:
  - The prohibition of anchoring of vessels within the area.
  - More thorough reporting (in addition to the STRAITREP requirements) of tankers and ships over 300 gross tonnage carrying oil or dangerous bulk cargo as cargo navigating within the area.
  - Speed limits to be introduced for the different types of vessels.
  - Compulsory reporting in accordance to MARPOL provisions.



Survey completed in the area

## Next steps and timeline

- Hydrodynamic and hydrographic survey for the mapping of the identified area.
- Detailed information gathering regarding coastal erosion & oil pollution incidences in the area, and other physical-socio-economical aspects.
- Assessment of the national legal aspects for PSSA enforcement
- Consultations with Littoral States
- Preparations for submission to IMO – MEPC and related platforms - MEPC 71 in spring 2017.

# Recommendation

- To take note of the status update on Malaysia's initiative and work in progress on the identification and designation of Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSAs) in the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), and raise specific concerns to be further discussed in the spirit of cooperation.



# Thank you

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**National Consultant:** *cheryl\_rk@mima.gov.my*

**National Focal Point:** *fairoz@marine.gov.my*