



## VALUING THE RECREATIONAL BENEFIT OF CENTRAL FOREST SPINE (CFS) ECOLOGICAL CORRIDOR N-SL2 (CFS2:SL7) ANGSI FOREST RESERVE AND BEREMBUN FOREST RESERVE, NEGERI SEMBILAN

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### ABSTRACT

The diversity of forest functions makes forest resources very valuable. However, the potential economic value of forest resources has been largely ignored and not taken into account. Instead of that, the forest resource have serves as an important destination for an ecotourism and recreation area, providing a variety of nature activities that are attractive to visitors and the local community. The Central Forest Spine (CFS) Ecological Corridor in N-SL2 (CFS2:SL7) is one of the three CFS Ecological Corridors in Negeri Sembilan. Located in the districts of Kuala Pilah and Seremban, this corridor covers an area of 1,673 ha and is part of the Berembun Forest Reserve (20,604.96 ha) and the adjacent Angsi Forest Reserve (12,435.01 ha). However, this forest reserve is separated by development such as residential areas and roads. By using the Contingent Value Method (CVM), the objective of this study is to estimate the maximum value of willingness to pay (WTP) for the conservation fee of Ulu Bendul Eco Forest Park and Gunung Angsi recreation area located within Ecological Corridor CFS N-SL2 (CFS2:SL7). Data was collected using a structured questionnaire. Respondents were asked whether they were willing or not (dichotomous answer Yes or No) to pay a certain price. They are also requested in the form of bids for the cost of management, conservation and maintenance of recreational resources in the CFS area. A total of 416 random samples of respondents completed the survey. Analysis of the results shows that the median value of LPA is RM3.20 per person. Collection of conservation fees will enable local authorities to conserve recreational areas, provide recreational facilities in good condition and be able to accommodate high demand for recreational use. The total value of recreational benefits is estimated to be RM338,812.80 for the year 2022.

**Key words:** Central Forest Spine, recreational benefit value, Contingent Valuation Method, Willingness to Pay