Title: Conserving Indonesia's Coral Reefs and Their Fisheries, Key Management Issues and Solutions

Author(s): James (Seamus) Kevin McElroy

Abstract: The paper gives a brief summary of Indonesia's Coral Reef Rehabilitation and Management Program (COREMAP) targets and progress as of midterm of this 18 year (1998 - 2015), three Phase program. The total program cost is USD 250 million. The paper highlights COREMAP's approach to the conservation and management of coral reefs and their fisheries, essentially by i) using a combination of some large and many small no take areas (NTAs); and ii) reduction in use of banned and destructive fishing methods (bombing, use of cyanide, muro ami, etc). The goal in Phase II, the current acceleration phase is to reach 10% NTAs of the total area of coral reefs in 7 districts by 2010. As of April 2008, some 7.1% of the total reef area of 382,158 ha is zoned as NTAs. It is anticipated the 10% goal in designated NTAs will exceed 15% by end of Phase II. This is halfway to the very ambitious target of 30% of reefs designated as NTAs by end of Phase III. Although management effectiveness of these NTAs has been limited to date - these NTAs are mostly less than 1 year old - awareness and enforcement efforts of the benefits of NTAs are receiving a big push in the 2007-2010 period, with the level of effort on both awareness and enforcement efforts being stepped up considerably. The paper presents some key practical management issues and solutions being trialled.