

# Indonesia

## Siberut



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**Declaration date :** 1981

**Surface area :** 190,500 hectares

**Administrative division :** West Sumatra Province

### Human activities:

The Mentawai communities on Siberut Island still largely embrace a sub-economic system, relying on the existing natural resources of the Siberut National Park. The traditional wisdom of the local communities allows them to utilize the natural resources of the forest carefully. Day-to-day activities of the people in this area relate to the usage of natural resources, for example through hunting, growing crops, gardening, farming, harvesting sandalwood and cane, and medicinal plants. Along with the change of time, as the socio-cultural, economic, and policy situations also have changed, new ways of exploiting natural resources have been brought to the area. The large-scale logging concessions that have been issued, revoked and then reissued again represent a scheme of resource exploitation which is incompatible with sustainable conservation of the biological and cultural diversity that make the island unique.



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### Contact information:

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### Ecological characteristics:

Siberut Island is isolated from the mainland Sunda shelf by the Mentawai Strait, with about 155 kilometres in distance from Padang, the capital city of the West Sumatra Province. It covers five ecosystem types, i.e. dipterocarpaceae primary forest, mixed



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primary forest, swamp forest, coastal forest and mangrove forest. The forest area is still relatively natural, with large trees. Sixty-five percent of mammals and fifteen percent of fauna on Siberut are endemic at some taxonomic level, making the island, with its limited surface, unique in the world. Four species of primates-the kloss Gibbon/ dwarf siamang (*Hylobates klossii*), Mentawai macaque (*Macaca pagensis*), Mentawai leaf monkey (*Presbytis potenziani siberu*) and pig-tail snub nosed monkey (*Nasalis concolor siberu*) are only found in this reserve. About 134 bird species found on Siberut, 19 are endemic. Over 31 mammalian species and 864 plants species are also recorded in the Park.

### Protection classifications:

The western part of the Siberut Island was designated as a national park in 1993 through the Decree of the ministry of Forestry No. 407/Kpts-II/1993.

