

Malaysia To Become First ASEAN Country To Gazette PSSA In 2016

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JOHOR BAHRU, April 25 (Bernama) -- Malaysia will become the first ASEAN country to gazette 'particularly sensitive sea areas' (PSSA) in January next year.

Johor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said Pulau Kukup to Tanjung Piai, covering about 550km, has been identified by the International Marine Organisation (IMO) as PSSA.

Khaled said once gazetted, enforcement can be carried out on ships that pass through the areas or anchor in the areas.

"The problem is that many ships are anchored in international waters but rubbish left behind by them are swept into waters that belong to us. That becomes an enforcement problem.

"That is why we decided to gazette the areas under PSSA," he told reporters after opening the state level 2015 World Peat Soil Day celebrations at the Johor Zoo, here Saturday.

Mohamed Khaled said there are 11 PSSA areas throughout the world, including the Great Barrier Reef PSSA (Australia), Archipelago of Sabana-Camaguey (Cuba), Malpelo Island PSSA (Colombia), Florida Keys PSSA (United States), Wadden Sea PSSA (Netherlands, Denmark and Germany), Paracas National Reserve PSSA (Peru).

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