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Walhi Central Sulawesi Called Floods in North Morowali Caused by Forest Encroachment for Oil Palm Lands

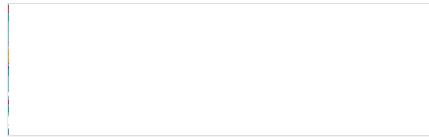
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see photo

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The Trans Sulawesi road section is experiencing flooding in North Morowali Regency, Central Sulawesi. Thursday (20/6/201).



From the preliminary data obtained by WALHI Central Sulawesi in Petumbea Village, tens of hectares of farmers' rice fields were flooded.

In addition, residents' livestock are also being dragged away by the water.

"It is undeniable that the floods that hit Ronta and Petumbea Villages were the result of massive forest encroachment and were exacerbated by the presence of PT. Cipta Agro Nusantara (a subsidiary of Astra Agro Lestari) in the area," he explained.



Stevandi revealed that the location of PT. CAN, which is directly adjacent to the Ronta river, has caused water to crash into the villages of Petumbea and Ronta.

"In addition, Ronta and Petumbea Villages are in a rather low position, so the level of vulnerability is quite high," explained Stevandi.

He added, apart from encroaching on the forest, WALHI Central Sulawesi has found facts.

The location of PT. CAN, which is only an average distance of 50 meters from the Ronta river, is strongly suspected to be the cause of flooding.

"This is clear because there are no more trees that function to tie water," he said.

Several facts about the flooding that occurred in a number of areas in Central Sulawesi should be a lesson for the Regional Government.

In order to limit the issuance of land-based permits and revoke problematic permits in Central Sulawesi.

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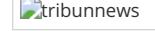
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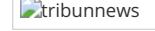
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