

CRIMINAL ACTIONS OF ILLEGAL LOGGING IN THE PERSPECTIVE OF FORESTRY LAW

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Citation: Wibawa, G.M., Satrya Wibawa, et.al.,2023. Criminal Actions Of Illegal Logging In The Perspective Of Forestry Law. *Int' Journal of Law, Environment, and Natural Resources (INJURLENS)*, 3 (1), 84-95.

Academic Editor: Muhammad Hendri Y.
Received: 01 June 2023
Revised: 16 June 2023
Accepted: 25 June 2023
Published: 04 July 2023

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Abstract: *This research aims to describe the regulation of illegal logging in Indonesian positive law and to analyze how illegal logging is in the perspective of Indonesian criminal law. It is a normative legal research, which examines laws and regulations in a coherent legal system with the values contained in the Forestry Law Number 19 of 2004 and Law No. 18 of 2013 concerning Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction, The research results show that illegal logging is regulated in the Forestry Law, namely Forestry Law No. 19 of 2004, changes to Law no. 41 of 1999 became a Law as an instrument in tackling illegal logging crimes. Then Regulation of the Minister of Forestry Number: P.30/Menhut-II/2012 concerning Administration of Forest Products originating from Private Forests. The government also enacted Law no. 18 of 2013 concerning Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction as statutory regulations, and is the implementation of Law no. 14 of 1999. Illegal logging sanctions are emphasized in the Forestry Law in the form of criminal sanctions given to those who carry out illegal logging, according to Law no. 18 of 2013 with a maximum prison sentence of 15 years and a maximum fine of IDR 100 billion.*

Keywords: *Crime, Illegal Logging, Forestry Law.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Forest is a very important resource not only as a wood resource, but more as a component of the environment (Sunarso, 2005). For this reason, in its position of forest as one of the determinants of life support systems, its sustainability must be maintained, as stated in Article 33 paragraph (3) of the 1945 Constitution which reads: "Earth, water and the natural resources contained therein are controlled by the State and used for the greatest prosperity of the people.

The forest area is an open natural resource, so that people's access to enter and use it is very large. Conditions like these spur problems in forest management. In addition, in line with the spirit of reform, logging and timber theft activities have become increasingly widespread. If this is allowed to continue continuously, the damage to the forest will get worse and this will have an impact on the disruption of ecosystem continuity, the occurrence of floods, erosion/landslide, forest dysfunction and so on.

Forest is also a part of nature, and nature itself consists of non-living and living environment. A forest is a certain area whose land is overgrown with trees, where forest animals and birds live (Salim, 2004). According to Article 1 Paragraph (1) of Law Number 41 of 1999 concerning Forestry as amended by Forestry Law Number 19 of 2004, a forest is an ecosystem unit in the form of a stretch of land containing biological natural resources dominated by trees in the natural environment association, which one with the other cannot be separated.

The existence of forests is essential and has various benefits, either directly (tangible) or indirectly (intangible). Directly, the forest plays its role as a place to provide wood, a habitat for various flora and fauna, and as a location for several mining products. Forest damage can occur due to area grabbing, illegal logging or logging, theft of forest products and forest burning. Illegal logging is the biggest cause of the rate of forest destruction. That's why forest destruction must be a serious concern.

Illegal logging of forests is a crime. To deal with rampant illegal logging, law enforcement officials such as police investigators and civil servant investigators whose scope of work is responsible for managing forests, the prosecutor's office and judges have used Forestry Law Number 19 of 2004 (amendment to Law No. 41 of 1999) as legal instruments in tackling illegal logging crimes, even though in a limitative manner the law does not mention the existence of the term illegal logging. Illegal logging can cause loss of tree cover, i.e. the disappearance of the tree canopy. Loss of tree cover can refer to damage to plantation trees as well as natural forests. Although the loss of the canopy can be due to natural causes such as fire.

2. METHODS

This is a normative legal research, using a statutory law approach that focuses on primary legal materials, namely the Forestry Law Number 19 of 2004 amendments to Law Number 41 of 1999 concerning Forestry, and the Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 18 of 2013 on Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction. The nature of qualitative descriptive analysis. Collection of legal materials through document studies (library), processing of legal materials is carried out by means of checking (editing),

marking (coding), reconstruction, and systematizing. Analysis of legal materials was carried out qualitatively and comprehensively.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Illegal Logging in Positive Law

Under Indonesian positive law, illegal logging is not explicitly defined. But literally illegal logging is a translation of the word "illegal logging". "Illegal" means illegal, prohibited, or against the law, unlawful, wild. "Log" means log or log. So "illegal logging" is defined as illegal logging, namely cutting wood and bringing it to a sawn place.

In general, illegal logging means activities in the forestry sector or which are a series of activities that include logging, transportation, processing to buying and selling activities, including the export-import of timber that is illegal or contrary to applicable laws, or acts that can cause forest damage (Zain, 2003).

From a historical perspective, illegal logging (illegal logging) originated from a workshop held by the Indonesian NGO Telapak in 2002, namely that illegal logging is a forestry operation or activity that has not received a permit and is destructive. Forest Watch Indonesia (FWI) and Global Forest Watch (GFW), identify illegal logging with the term "illegal logging" to describe all forestry practices or activities related to timber harvesting, management and trade that are not in accordance with Indonesian law. Furthermore, FWI divides illegal logging into 2 (two), namely: First, it is carried out by legal operators who violate the provisions of their permits. Second, involving timber thieves, trees are cut down by people who have absolutely no legal right to cut down trees (Nurdjana, 2008).

In the Presidential Instruction of the Republic of Indonesia Number 5 of 2001 concerning the Eradication of Illegal Logging and Distribution of Illegal Forest Products in the Leuser Ecosystem Area and Tanjung Putting National Park, the term illegal logging is regulated in the Presidential Decree. It was stated that the act of illegal logging and distribution of illegal forest products was very concerning. Therefore it is necessary to take firm and integrated steps by fellow government agencies.

According to Prasetyo, there are 7 (seven) dimensions of illegal logging activities namely (Suarga, 2005): a. Licensing, if the activity does not have a permit or permit has not been obtained or the permit has expired; b. Practice, if in practice it does not apply illegal practices according to regulations; c. Location, if it is done outside the permit location, logging in a conservation/protected area, or the proposed location cannot be shown; d. Timber production if the timber is of any type (protected), there is no diameter limit, there is no identity of origin of the wood, there is no company

identification; e. Documents, if there are no legal timber documents; f. Performing unlawful acts in the forestry sector; and g. Sales, if at the time of sale there are no documents or physical characteristics of the timber or the timber is smuggled.

Illegal logging is also connoted as forest destruction which will have an impact on losses both from the economic, ecological and socio-cultural aspects. Because logging activities do not go through a comprehensive planning process, illegal logging has the potential to damage forests which in turn has an impact on environmental destruction (Nurdjana, 2008).

Thus it can be emphasized that the act of illegal logging is a crime because the impacts are very broad. This crime is a potential threat to social order and can cause tension and conflicts in various dimensions, so that the act actually deviates from the norms that underlie life or social order. In fact, the impact of forest destruction is not only felt by the people living around the forest, but also felt nationally and internationally (Nurdjana, 2008).

Illegal logging can be caused by several things (Nurdjana, 2008):

First, the high demand for wood is inversely proportional to the supply. This can happen when the demand for legal timber is not sufficient to meet the high demand for timber.

Second, there is no continuity between Government Regulation No. 21 of 1970 which regulates Forest Concession Rights by Decree of the Minister of Forestry and Plantations No. 309/Kpts-II/1999 which regulates the Silvicultural System and Cycle of Staple Plants in the Management of Production Forests. In addition to the provisions regarding the period of forest concessions, which is 20 years with the period of the Indonesian Selective Logging and Planting (TPTI) cycle, especially for production forests.

Third, weak law enforcement and supervision for perpetrators of illegal logging. Weak law enforcement, where law enforcers only deal with local people or owners of timber transportation equipment.

Fourth, overlapping policies between the central government and local governments. Forest concession rights have so far been under the authority of the central government. However, since the regional autonomy policy took effect, regional governments must seek to fulfill their regional needs independently. This condition causes local governments to be interested in exploring various regional potentials that have economic value available in their area, including the economic potential of forests.

The definition of forest according to Article 1 point 2 of Law Number 41 of 1999 concerning Forestry Article 1 point 2 is: "An ecosystem unit in the form of a stretch of

land containing biological natural resources dominated by trees in their natural environment, which cannot be separated from one another."

Forestry Law according to the Legal and Organizational Bureau of the Ministry of Forestry 1992, namely that forestry law is a collection (set) of regulations both written and unwritten relating to activities related to forests and their management, where there are two interests in the forest management system that are mutually exclusive. influence, namely the interests of utilization and the interests of forest protection (Nurdjana, 2008).

The principle of forest protection according to Article 15 of Law Number 5 of 1967 concerning Basic Forestry Provisions is a principle that every person/legal entity must participate in preventing and limiting damage to forests and forest products caused by human and livestock actions, natural forces, pests and diseases (Nurdjana, 2008). Forest protection according to Article 47 of the UUK is defined as protection of forests and forest areas which are efforts to: 1) Prevent and limit damage to forests and forest products caused by human actions, livestock, fires, natural forces, pests and diseases and; 2) Defending and safeguarding the rights of the state, communities and individuals to forests, forest areas and forest products, investments and instruments related to forest management.

3.2. Illegal Logging in Criminal Law Perspective

Illegal logging still refers to the Forestry Law as stated in the elucidation of Article 50 paragraph (2), namely: "The occurrence of physical changes, physical or biological characteristics, which causes the forest to be disturbed or unable to play a role according to its function".

Illegal logging still refers to criminal provisions as stipulated in Article 50 in conjunction with Article 78 of the Forestry Law, as follows:

Article 50 paragraph (1):

Everyone is prohibited from destroying forest protection infrastructure and facilities.

Article 50 paragraph (2):

Anyone who is given a permit to utilize an area, a business permit for the utilization of environmental services, a business permit for the utilization of timber and non-timber forest products, and a permit for the collection of timber and non-timber forest products, is prohibited from carrying out activities that cause forest damage.

Article 78 paragraph (1):

Anyone who intentionally violates the provisions referred to in Article 50 paragraph (1) or Article 50 paragraph (2) is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 10 (ten) years and a fine of up to Rp. 5,000,000,000.- (five billion rupiah).

Everyone is prohibited:

- a) working and or using and or occupying forest areas illegally;
- b) encroaching on forest areas;
- c) logging trees in a forest area with a radius or distance of up to: 500 (five hundred) meters from the edge of a reservoir or lake; 200 (two hundred) meters from the edge of the spring and either side of the river in a swamp area; 100 (one hundred) meters from either side of the river bank; 50 (fifty) meters from either side of the tributary bank; 2 (two) times the depth of the cliff from the edge of the cliff; 130 (one hundred and thirty) times the difference between the highest and lowest tides from the beach.

Article 78 paragraph (2):

Whoever intentionally violates the provisions referred to in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter a, letter b, or letter c, is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 10 (ten) years and a fine of up to Rp. 5,000,000,000.- (five billion rupiah).

Punishment for perpetrators of illegal logging, in general in relation to elements of general crimes in the Criminal Code, can be grouped into several forms of crime in general, namely: destruction (Article 406 to Article 412), theft (article 362), Smuggling. Explicit illegal logging crimes are not found in the articles of Law no. 41 of 1999, and so far illegal logging has been identified with actions that result in forest destruction. Regarding forest destruction, this is emphasized in Article 50 paragraph (2) of Law Number 41 of 1999. Forest destruction according to Law Number 41 of 1999, in the elucidation of Article 50 paragraph (2), namely: "What is meant by damage is the occurrence of physical changes, physical or biological characteristics, which cause the forest to be disturbed or unable to play a role according to its function."

Several regulations mentioned illegal logging before the new law was formulated, namely Presidential Instruction No. 5 of 2001 concerning the Eradication of Logging and Distribution of Forest Products in the Leuser Ecosystem Area and Tanjung Putting National Park and Presidential Instruction No. 4 of 2005 concerning the Eradication of Logging by Logging in Forest Areas and Its Circulation throughout the Territory of the Republic of Indonesia which defines it as logging logging. And so in several international organizations also provide an understanding of this matter, so that from there can be taken a picture of the meaning of illegal logging.

Law Number 41 of 1999 has formulated various forms of criminal acts in the forestry sector, which are divided into crimes and violations. From a qualitative point of view, crime is a legal offense (*rechts delict*), namely an act that is contrary to justice. Meanwhile, a violation is a legal offense (*wet delict*), namely that an act that is only realized can be punished because the law calls it a crime. Criminal studies from a quantitative perspective are based on the terms of punishment or punishment. With

regard to criminal acts in the forestry sector, the quantity of punishment can be seen from the type of punishment, namely imprisonment for crimes, while imprisonment for violations (Sutami, 1987).

Illegal logging crimes that have been regulated in Law No. 41 of 1999 contained in Article 50 paragraph (3), namely:

- a. letter c: logging trees in a forest area with a radius or distance of up to:
 - (1). 500 (five hundred) meters from the edge of a reservoir or lake;
 - (2). 200 (two hundred) meters from the edge of the spring and either side of the river in a swamp area;
 - (3). 100 (one hundred) meters from either side of the river bank;
 - (4). 50 (fifty) meters from either side of the tributary;
 - (5). 2 (two) times the depth of the ravine from the edge of the ravine;
 - (6). 130 (one hundred and thirty) times the difference between the highest and lowest tides from the beach.
- b. Letter e: cutting down trees or harvesting or collecting forest products in the forest without having rights or permission from the competent authority;
- c. Letter f: receiving, buying or selling, receiving exchange, receiving deposit, storing, or possessing forest products that are known or reasonably suspected to have originated from forest areas that were illegally taken or collected;
- d. Letter h: transporting, controlling or possessing forest products which are not accompanied by a certificate of legality of forest products;
- e. Letter j: carrying heavy equipment and/or other equipment which is customary or reasonably suspected to be used to transport forest products within a forest area, without permission from the competent authority;
- f. Point k: bring tools commonly used to cut, chop or split trees in a forest area without permission from the competent authority.

The government has also formulated and stipulated Law Number 18 of 2013 concerning Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction which has the following scope: (1) Prevention of forest destruction, (2) Eradication of forest destruction, (3) Institutional, (4) Community participation, (5) International cooperation, (6) Protection of witnesses, reporters and informants, (7) Financing, and (8) Sanctions.

There are three types of punishment regulated in Article 78 of Law Number 41 of 1999, namely imprisonment, fines and criminal confiscation of objects used to commit criminal acts and these three types of punishment can be imposed cumulatively on the perpetrator. These criminal provisions can be seen in the formulation of criminal sanctions regulated in Article 78 of Law Number 41 of 1999. This type of punishment is a sanction given to perpetrators who commit crimes as regulated in Article 50 of Law Number 41 of 1999 (pericantik, n.d.).

Article 50 states,

Everyone is prohibited from destroying infrastructure and facilities for forest protection (paragraph (1)) and everyone who is given a business permit for the utilization of an area, a business permit for the utilization of environmental services, a business permit for the utilization of timber and non-timber forest products, and a permit for collecting timber and non-timber forest products timber, it is prohibited to carry out activities that cause forest damage (paragraph (2)).

Article 78 paragraph (1) states

Whoever deliberately violates the provisions referred to in Article 50 paragraph (1) or Article 50 paragraph (2), is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 10 (ten) years and a fine of up to 5,000,000,000.00 (five billion rupiahs) .

Explanation of Article 50 paragraph (1) what is meant by a person is a legal subject, whether an individual, legal entity or business entity. Forest protection infrastructure such as forest area boundary fences, fire trails, control towers, and inspection roads. Forest protection facilities include fire extinguishers, prohibition signs, and means of transportation. While the explanation in Article 50 paragraph (2) what is meant by forest damage is the occurrence of physical or biological changes that cause the forest to be disrupted or unable to play a role according to its function.

The provisions in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter c state, "Everyone is prohibited from logging trees in a forest area with a radius or distance of up to: (a) 500 (five hundred) meters from the edge of a reservoir or lake; (b) 200 (two hundred) meters from the edge of the spring and either side of the river in a swamp area; (c) 100 (one hundred) meters from either side of the river bank; (d) 50 (fifty) meters from either side of the tributary bank; (e) 2 (two) times the depth of the ravine from the edge of the ravine; (f) 130 (one hundred and thirty) times the difference between the highest and lowest tides from the shore.

Violation of this provision is punishable by imprisonment for a maximum of 10 (ten) years and a maximum fine of 5,000,000,000. (five billion rupiah) (Article 78 paragraphs (1), (2) and paragraph (3)) if it is committed by a legal entity or business entity, charges and criminal sanctions will be imposed on the management in accordance with the respective criminal penalties plus 1/ 3 (one third) of the sentence imposed (Article 78 paragraph (4)). What is meant by legal entities or business entities in this article include limited liability companies (PT), limited liability companies (commanditer vennotschaap-CV), firms, cooperatives, and the like (explanation of Article 78 paragraph (14)).

The provisions in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter e states: "Everyone is prohibited from cutting down trees or harvesting or collecting forest products in the forest without having rights or permission from the competent authority". Paragraph (3) letter f states "receiving, buying or selling, receiving exchange, receiving deposit, storing, or

possessing forest products that are known or reasonably suspected to have originated from forest areas that were taken or collected illegally".

Article 78 paragraph (5) states "Anyone who deliberately violates the provisions referred to in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter e or letter f, is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 10 (ten) years and a fine of up to 5,000,000,000.00 (five billion rupiah)."

Explanation of Article 50 paragraph (3) letter e, what is meant by authorized officials are central and regional officials who are authorized by law to grant permits, while the explanation in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter f, is quite clear. Violation of the provisions of Article 50 paragraph (3) letters e and f, is punishable by a maximum imprisonment of 10 (ten) years and a maximum fine of 5,000,000,000. (five billion rupiah) (Article 78 paragraph (4)).

Article 50 paragraph (3) letter h states that, "transporting, controlling, or possessing forest products that are not accompanied by a certificate of legality of forest products". Meanwhile, the provisions in Article 78 paragraph (7) states: "Anyone who intentionally violates the provisions referred to in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter h, is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 5 (five) years and a fine of up to 10,000,000,000.00 (ten billion rupiah)".

Explanation of Article 50 paragraph (3) letter h is meant by "completed together" is that every transportation, possession, or possession of forest products, at the same time and place, must be accompanied and accompanied by valid documents as evidence. If there is a discrepancy between the contents of the statement on the legality of said forest products and the conditions in the contents of the document on the legality of said forest products and their physical condition, including the type, quantity and volume, then the forest products are declared not to have legal documents as evidence.

The provisions of Article 50 paragraph (3) letter j state: "carrying heavy equipment and/or other equipment which is customary or reasonably suspected to be used to transport forest products within the forest area, without permission from the competent authority". Meanwhile, the provisions in Article 78 paragraph (9) state that, "Anyone who intentionally violates the provisions referred to in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter j, is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 5 (five) years and a fine of up to 5,000,000,000.00 (five billion rupiah)".

Explanation of Article 50 paragraph (3) letter j means heavy equipment for transporting, among others, tractors, bulldozers, truck trailers, cranes, barges, klotok boats, helicopters, jeeps, tugboats, and ships. In the provisions of Article 50 paragraph (3) letter k it states that, "bringing tools that are commonly used to cut, cut, or split trees in a forest area without the permission of an authorized official". Meanwhile, the provisions in Article 78 paragraph (10) "Anyone who deliberately violates the provisions

referred to in Article 50 paragraph (3) letter k, is threatened with imprisonment for a maximum of 3 (three) years and a fine of up to 1,000,000,000.00 (one billion rupiah)". Explanation of Article 50 paragraph (3) letter k, not included in this provision are people who carry tools such as machetes, sabers, machetes, or other similar things, in accordance with cultural traditions and local characteristics.

The provisions in Article 78 paragraph (15) statet, "All forest products resulting from crimes and violations and/or means of transportation including means of transportation used to commit crimes and/or violations as referred to in this article are confiscated for the State"

The elements that can be used as a legal basis for enforcing criminal law against perpetrators of illegal logging are: 1) Damaging the infrastructure and means of legal protection; 2) Activities that fall outside of the licensing provisions thereby destroying the forest; 3) Violating the boundaries of river banks, ravines and beaches determined by law; 4) Cutting down trees without permission; 6) Receiving, buying or selling, receiving exchange, receiving deposit, storing, or possessing forest products that are known or reasonably suspected to be logging forest products; 7) Transporting, controlling or owning forest products without SKSHH; and 8). Carrying heavy equipment and other tools for managing forest products without a permit.

Illegal logging that has been formulated in Law no. 18 of 2013 concerning the Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction is also formulated regarding evil conspiracy, because this crime has caused state losses and enormous damage to socio-cultural life and the environment such as global warming nationally, regionally and internationally. Destruction of forests is a crime that has extraordinary impacts, is carried out in an organized manner and involves many parties (hendri, n.d.).

4. CONCLUSIONS

Illegal logging is regulated in Forestry Law no. 19 of 2004, changes to Law no. 41 of 1999 became a Law as an instrument in tackling illegal logging crimes. Then Regulation of the Minister of Forestry Number: P.30/Menhut-II/2012 concerning Administration of Forest Products originating from Private Forests. The government also enacted Law no. 18 of 2013 concerning Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction as statutory regulations, and is the implementation of Law no. 14 of 1999.

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Sanctions for illegal logging are emphasized in the Forestry Law. Very severe criminal sanctions are given to those who carry out illegal logging according to Law Number 18 of 2013 concerning the Prevention and Eradication of Forest Destruction, with a maximum imprisonment of 15 years and a maximum fine of IDR 100 billion.

5. SUGGESTION

So that all Indonesian citizens take part in efforts to prevent illegal logging activities and deal with them, especially the stakeholders. Law enforcers, police, prosecutors, judiciary, lawyers to enforce the law in a professional manner with the principle of equality before the law for everyone, and so that community organizations and organizations concerned with the environment can play an active role in escorting environmental law enforcement.

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