

Two more projects to release aquatic life into rivers

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PUTATAN: Universiti Malaysia Sabah Borneo Marine Research Institute (BMRI) will carry out another two more projects to release aquatic life into rivers this year.

Disclosing this, the school's director, Professor Dr Saleem Mustafa, said they were in the stage of discussion to plan the best strategy to implement the projects in the hope of producing sustainable supplies of marine life.

He stressed that the selection of suitable marine life was vital, adding that several factors were taken into account such as its biological nature, natural habitat, economic factor and the support from the local community.

"While we are working closely with the relevant bodies on this project, it will not succeed without the support and cooperation from the local community. We are looking forward to their feedback for the implementation of this first project launched today (yesterday)," he said referring to the launch of the first phase of the Lobster Ranching Project at the Muhibbah Hall in Petagas, here, by Deputy Chief Minister cum Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Seri Panglima Yahya Hussin.

Saleem added that BMRI will hold discussion sessions from time to time to identify the suitable species to be released at several locations for the next phase.

He said there have been requests from individuals to release fries or shrimps into the rivers.