

ABSTRACT

Rembang Regency is one of the areas with great marine fisheries potential in Central Java, but its poverty rate remains high, especially among small-scale fishermen. This disparity has prompted an evaluation of fishing practices, particularly in relation to the fishing gear used and the extent to which these practices are in line with the principles of sustainability. This study aims to analyze the impact of fishing gear use on the welfare of small-scale fishermen, analyze the compatibility of fishing gear use with the principles of the blue economy, and analyze fishing gear use from the perspective of maqashid syariah.

This study employs a qualitative method with a case study approach. Data collection techniques include interviews and documentation of small-scale fishermen in Rembang Regency. Informants were selected purposively, including fishermen using environmentally friendly and non-environmentally friendly fishing gear, as well as relevant parties from the Marine and Fisheries Department. Data analysis was conducted using a descriptive-analytical approach through data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions, and its validity was tested using method triangulation techniques.

The results of the study indicate that the type of fishing gear does not directly affect the welfare level of fishermen, as both groups are at the Family Welfare Level II (KS II) level. However, from the perspective of neoclassical welfare theory, the use of non-environmentally friendly fishing gear tends to harm other fishermen and the marine ecosystem in the long term. Meanwhile, Kaliori fishermen are more consistent in applying blue economy principles such as multiplier effect, social inclusion, innovation, and adaptability, and have successfully fulfilled the five objectives of maqashid syariah. Conversely, Kragan fishermen are still limited in their application of blue economy principles and only fulfill two of the five maqashid syariah objectives. This indicates that the welfare of fishermen using environmentally friendly fishing gear is more in line with sharia principles and ecological sustainability.

Keywords: Welfare, Small-Scale Fishermen's, Fishing Gear, Blue Economy, Maqashid Syariah