

**MAHAKAM ULU FIVE MONTHS ZERO COVID-19 CASES: WHAT IS THE POLICY OF THE MAHAKAM ULU REGENCY GOVERNMENT IN HANDLING COVID-19?**

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**ABSTRACT**

This study aims to see how the policies carried out by the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government in handling Covid-19. This is based on the fact that in the midst of the widespread spread of Covid-19 cases in East Kalimantan, Mahakam Ulu Regency was able to maintain a status of zero cases from March to early August 2020. Furthermore, this research is a qualitative study. Primary and secondary data are used as data sources in this study. This study uses a purposive sample approach to select sources to determine informants. There were two informants in this study including the Head of the Department of Health, Population Control and Family Planning of Mahakam Ulu Regency who also served as the Covid-19 Rapid Response Team (first informant) and Chairman of Commission III of the Mahakam Ulu Regency DPRD (second informant). The results of the study stated that temporary opening and closing access was carried out with a period of 2 weeks open and 2 weeks closed. Furthermore, in the closed situation, travelers are not allowed to enter except with special permission from the Regent of Mahakam Ulu Regency and during the opening period for travelers who want to enter Mahakam Ulu Regency, they must first fill out SIMAS (Entry Permit) through the

Task Force Team and follow the requirements- other requirements such as PCR or Antigen Swab Test according to the decision of the Task Force Team.

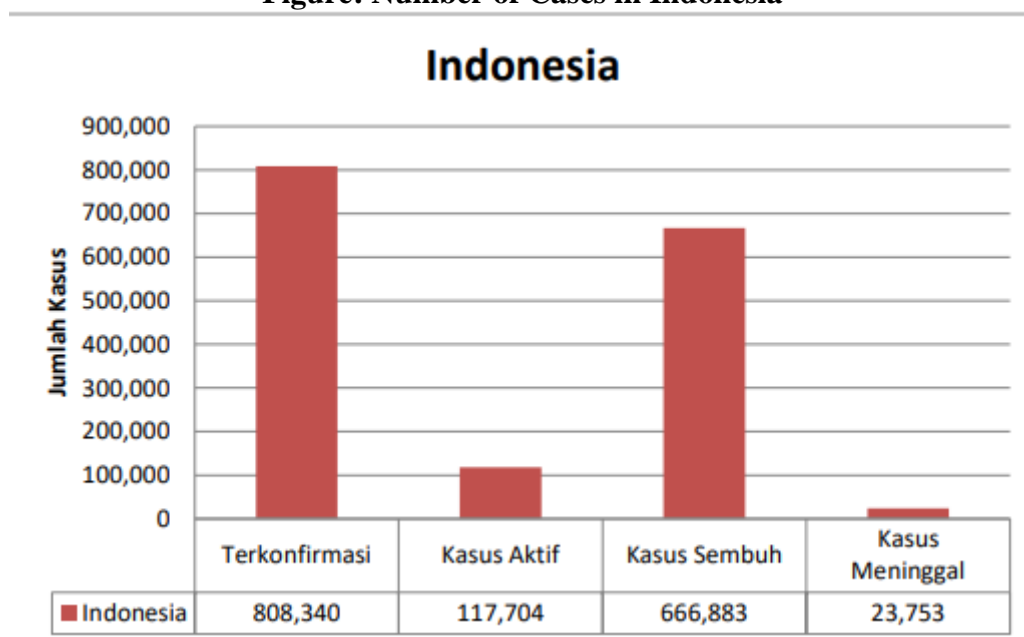
**Key Word:** *Covid-19, Policy, Mahakam Ulu*

## A. INTRODUCTION

Covid-19 or can be called Corona Virus Disease has attracted the attention of the international community in many countries and regions around the world. The Covid-19 outbreak that occurred at the end of 2019 until March 2020 in the Wuhan area, Hubei, China was the main problem faced by mankind. In addition, the emergence of Covid-19 has also caused various other problems besides health problems, such as physical, mental, spiritual, economic problems to shifts in socio-cultural values (Abdullan, 2020). Covid-19 has been declared a global pandemic and has infected 210 countries, including Indonesia (Banna, 2020). Covid-19 is a “new epidemic” with the potential to enter geographic areas, and a cure has not yet been identified (Heymann & Shindo, 2020). Covid-19, a fast-growing virus that kills people, is spreading rapidly in a number of countries. especially in Indonesia, which has occurred in various regions, has brought various kinds of policy models, both health and political. To carry out various measures and procedures to prevent the Covid-19 epidemic from spreading further.

The Indonesian government reported the first positive case of Covid-19 on March 2, 2020, specifically the positive case of Covid-19 that infected two residents of Depok, West Java. Until now, the update on January 8, 2021, in Indonesia, there are 808,340, 117,704 active cases, 666,883 recovered cases, and 23,753 deaths. Here's the data graph:

**Figure: Number of Cases in Indonesia**



Source : covid19.go.id

Reflecting on the data on the number of cases of the Corona Virus or the position of Covid 19, the growth is very disturbing. Indonesia was ranked the highest in the world as a country with a fairly high case fatality rate. The government has taken proactive action to protect its people in response to this. Not only that, the President also formed a Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Covid-19. The task force coordinates central and local government resources to ensure that efforts are made to avoid the emergence of new distributions. In addition, several areas that are prioritized and have red zone status by the Indonesian government are enforced by the Large-Scale Social Restrictions (PSBB) policy with the aim of accelerating the completion of the spread of Covid-19 (Syarifuddin, Budiman, & Purwaningsih, 2021).

For the Province of East Kalimantan, an update on January 27, 2021 by the Covid-19 Task Force of the East Kalimantan Provincial Government, 37,971 confirmed cases, 6,614, recovered 30,403, 9541 deaths. Especially for Mahakam Ulu Regency after 5 months of maintaining a green zone starting from the beginning of the pandemic in East Kalimantan<sup>2</sup> and finally getting the first case on August 6, 2020. Until now, January 27, based on updated data from the Department of Communication and Information, Statistics and Encryption of Mahakam Ulu Regency (diskominfotandi Mahulu ) cases recorded in Mahakam Ulu Regency were 204 confirmed cases, 122 were treated, 4 deaths, and 78 recovered with some of the exposed patients not living in Mahulu but the owner of Mahulu's resident identity so that administratively it was recorded as a Mahakam Ulu case.

From the absence of cases in March to early August 2020 and the discovery of cases on August 6, 2020 and an increase on January 19, 2021 until there was a decrease on February 4, 2021, based on the number of existing cases and in the current problems, it is very necessary to apply model applications. new policies or adoption of a handling model from the region with the least cases. How are the regional policies in handling Covid-19 implemented so that they can suppress the speed of the spread process, of course, in this case, the presence of the government is very much needed.

When examining the basic concepts of public policy according to Thomas R. Dye (Suwitri, 2011), in its application it is divided into several models. First, the rational model is a model in which a decision-making process is pursued which will lead to the choice of alternatives that are highly efficient in achieving policy objectives. The Rational Model includes categorizing problems, compiling and explaining the goals that lead to decision making, investigating various alternative solutions to problems, examining the consequences that can arise from alternative choices, and comparing each alternative and its consequences. Second, the incremental model shows that the making of public policy decisions is like a form of the political process that is determined by bargaining and compromise in the interests of the decision-makers themselves. Lindblom sees decision makers refine policy through a stage of making that compares the limited success of past decisions. The Incremental Model is based on the assumption that policies are serial, fragmentary, and remedial. Third, Etzioni (Suwitri, 2011) demonstrates the Mixed Scan model as a mixture of rational and incremental models in two (2)

types of decisions: 1. Fundamental decisions, In particular, the judgments made by public policy implementers are based on a thorough examination of the many available options. for them to achieve their goals. 2. Bit decisions, in particular, decisions that are made in stages or with a few modifications as possible to the core decisions that have been made.

The next model is the Garbage Can Model which is a model proposed by March and Olsen which is from the formation of decisions that do not accept rationality and accept irrationality. In the view of this model, decision-making is a highly ambiguous matter and begins with a process that cannot be taken into account in solving problems to achieve goals. Fifth, is the Institutional Model of Public Policy. This model is a traditional model in the policy-making process where the focus of this model is on the organizational structure of the government. A public policy is designed and implemented by government institutions, where there is a strong relationship between public policy and government institutions. A decision from the results of the selection of alternative problem solving cannot become a public policy without a decision that is formulated, ratified, and implemented first by a government agency. The institutional model is legitimacy, universality, and coercion is carried out by the legislative, executive, judicial, and local government institutions. Sixth, the Elite-Mass Model This model shows public policymaking in the form of a 'pyramid' where the community is at the lowest level, the elite is at the level of the tip of the pyramid and the internal actors of the bureaucracy who formulate public policies are in the middle between the community and the elite.

The seventh model is in groups, where a political reality is a relationship between interest groups. Each individual who has a common interest is committed either formally or informally to an interest group that can advance and impose his or her interests on the government. The last is the Political-System Model This system model was coined by David Easton (1957) "The Political System". This model is based on a system concept composed of inputs, with inputs, outputs, feedback, and the environment, namely the environmental forces (economic, social, cultural, political, geographical, and so on) that surround it. A public policy is the output of a political system. The System Model can be seen by calculating opportunities and gaining support from internal or external, satisfying environmental demands, and satisfying the interests of policymakers.

In crisis situations such as the Covid-19 pandemic, the government and politicians continue to try to maintain direct communication with the public (Teichmann et al., 2020). The presence of the government in dealing with issues related to the method and prevention of Covid-19 is very necessary, especially for local governments by issuing them in accordance with Article 2 paragraph 1 of the *Peraturan Menteri Dalam Negeri Republik Indonesia Nomor 20 Tahun 2020* concerning the Acceleration of Handling Corona Virus Disease 2019 in the Regional Government, the regional government must take anticipatory and countermeasures steps. The impact of Covid-19 transmission, and Article 2 paragraph 2 local governments must prioritize the benefits of Covid-19. In line with the Presidential Decree for the establishment of a Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Covid-19, regional heads formed a Task Force for the

Acceleration of Handling Covid-19. Especially for Mahakam Ulu Regency, starting from the first time Covid-19 entered East Kalimantan, in March 2020 the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government has tightened access in and out as a prevention effort in the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Nomor 188.6/4714/DINKES-TU.P/IV/2020*, regarding controlling the spread of Corona Virus Diseases (Covid-19).

Related to the *Peraturan Menteri Dalam Negeri Republik Indonesia Nomor 20 Tahun 2020* in the process of accelerating the handling of Covid, Mahakam Ulu Regency in its implementation has the smallest case results in East Kalimantan and is an example that can be imitated by regions in East Kalimantan in the process of handling the spread of Covid-19 which The policy model for handling COVID-19 in Mahakam Ulu Regency can be considered for adoption by other regions in East Kalimantan. Based on the above phenomenon, the author is interested in carrying out a study on the Covid-19 handling policy model in Mahulu Regency. This paper will depart from a research question, "How is the Mahakam Ulu Government Policy Model in Handling Covid-19?". Furthermore, the author has compared several previous studies as material for comparison and legitimacy that this research needs to be investigated further.

## **B. LITERATURE REVIEW**

**Tabel: Literture Review**

Authors	Title	Result	Research Gap
(Anggara, Afiyah, Farida, & Muslim, 2020)	Inovasi Kebijakan Publik Tentang Pencegahan Dan Penanggulangan Corona Virus Disease 19 (Covid-19) Di Jawa Barat	The results of this research look at the extent to which government policies are related to the Covid-19 outbreak in the community, namely the policies currently available are still normal, starting from taking action against their spread and also the consequences that arise from the existence of new concepts of implementing public policy innovations so that they are expected to share more concrete results and promote more sustainable citizen participation	More directed at analyzing public policy innovations regarding the prevention and control of corona virus disease in West Java, in this study, the authors found that public policy cannot be separated from innovation, because innovation provides new knowledge and public policy provides theoretical aspects, guidelines, and methods. with the formulation of the problem the extent to which government policies are related to

			the Covid-19 outbreak in the community
(Sulistiani & Kaslam, 2020)	Kebijakan Jogo Tonggo Pemerintah Provinsi Jawa Tengah dalam Penanganan Pandemi Covid-19	The results of this study show how the Central Java government has issued the Jogo Tonggo policy in dealing with the Covid-19 outbreak, but the fact is that until now the problems that have occurred have not been well resolved.	Describe and analyze the policies of the Governor of Central Java in the prevention and handling of covid-19, which focuses more on analyzing the policies of the Governor of Central Java in responding to Covid-19 where there is still a lack of public awareness
(Agustino, 2020)	Analisis Kebijakan Penanganan Wabah Covid-19: Pengalaman Indonesia	The results obtained from this study are the slow response of the government in the spread of Covid-19 and the narrative conveyed by the political elite before Covid-19 entered Indonesia, showing no feeling of a threatening crisis that slows down decision making and weak coordination between stakeholders, in particular. between the central government and local governments.	Discussing the efforts of the Indonesian government in dealing with cases of the spread of the corona virus by understanding the efforts, steps, and policies formulated and implemented by the government

Source: Edited by Author

### C. METHOD

This research is qualitative research. This technique was chosen because it is considered useful in understanding the phenomenon and describing how the Covid-19 handling policy in Mahakam Ulu Regency is in more detail. This research technique was used in the hope of obtaining clear and interesting information about the Covid-19 handling policy in Mahakam Ulu. Primary and secondary data are used as data sources in this study. This study uses a purposive sample approach to select sources to determine informants. The parties selected by the author as informants in the context of collecting primary data for this study were the Head of the Department of Health, Population Control, and Family Planning, Mahakam Ulu Regency who also served as the Covid-19 Rapid Response Team (first informant). In addition, the author also chose one of the regional legislators who participated in the policy formulation process for

handling Covid-19, namely the Chair of Commission III of the Mahakam Ulu Regency DPRD (second informant).

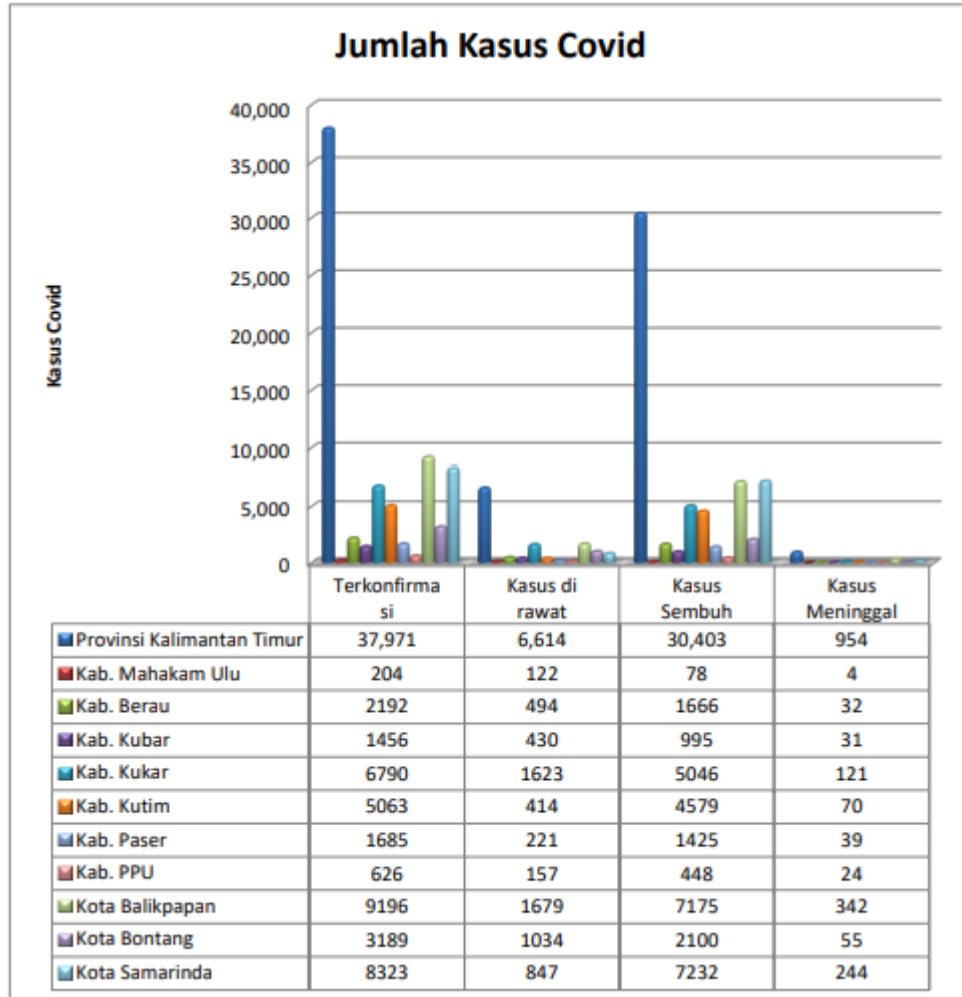
## **D. DISCUSSION**

### **Five months experience zero cases**

Since March 2020, when the Covid-19 case first entered East Kalimantan, the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government has tightened entry and exit access as a prevention effort. In the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Nomor 188.6/4714/DINKES-TU.P/IV/2020*, regarding controlling the spread of Corona Virus Disease 2019 (Covid-19), rules are made for opening and closing border access. In addition to opening and closing, the Mahakam Ulu Health Office also moves around providing education, spraying disinfectant from house to house, places of worship, government offices, and distributing vitamins to residents. However, further, than that, the natural factor and the location of Mahakam Ulu, which is far from other districts in East Kalimantan, are also considered beneficial during the pandemic. This is because it makes it difficult for people to get in and out of traffic so there are no imported cases. In addition, the air is still clean. Nearly 30 percent of forest cover is still intact is also considered a benefit to the Mahakam Ulu community.

Mahakam Ulu Regency after 5 months of maintaining a green zone starting from the beginning of the pandemic in East Kalimantan<sup>2</sup> and finally getting the first case on August 6, 2020 and until now January 27 based on updated data from the Department of Communication and Information, Statistics and Encryption of Mahakam Ulu Regency (diskominfotandi Mahulu) The cases recorded in Mahakam Ulu Regency were 204 confirmed cases, 122 were treated, 4 deaths, and 78 recovered with some of the exposed patients not living in Mahulu but the Mahulu KTP holders so that administratively they were recorded as Mahakam Ulu cases. The following is a graph of data from the Province of East Kalimantan and 10 Regencies Cities:

Figure: Number of Cases in East Kalimantan



Source: Processed by Authors from Various Sources

For Mahakam Ulu Regency, the first case is a case through administrative data collection, namely the patient is in West Kutai Regency and has not entered Mahakam Ulu, for the second case with a confirmed number of 4 people, namely because when entering Mahakam Ulu the test results showed non-reactive results on August 9, 2020, so that able to enter Mahakam Ulu and after a few days of feeling sick on August 11, 2020, and doing the first PCR test on August 13, 2021, the second test on August 16, 2020, and getting positive results on August 17, 2020, with the criteria for the patient MHU02 mild symptoms and MHU03 and MHU04 patients were asymptomatic. Through this incident, the number of confirmed cases in Mahakam Ulu continued to increase to 153 confirmed cases on January 19, 2021, and decreased to 28 confirmed cases of data updates on February 4, 2021. From no cases in March to early August 2020 and cases found on 6 August 2020 and there was an increase on January 19, 2021, until there was a decrease on February 04, 2021, based on the number of existing cases and the



current problems, it is very necessary to implement a new policy model or adopt a handling model from the area that has the smallest cases. How are the regional policies in handling Covid-19 implemented so that they can suppress the speed of the spread process, of course, in this case, the presence of the government is very much needed.

### **Mahakam Ulu Regency Government's Policy for Handling the Covid-19 Pandemic**

From the research that the author has conducted in Mahakam Ulu Regency, the results show that the policy model used by Mahakam Ulu Regency in handling Covid-19 is to use the Institutional Public Policy model, namely the basic concept of public policy by Thomas R. Dye in Sri Suwitri (2011). ), where a policy is designed and realized by government institutions that are legitimacy, universality, and coercion by the Legislative, Executive, and judicial institutions of the local government. What is meant by coercion above is that the whole community inevitably has to follow the policies issued by the local government. as explained by the first informant in an interview previously held on 16 June 2021.

In response to a non-natural disaster, namely Covid-19 so as to prevent the spread of Covid-19, the Indonesian government has made various policy models to be implemented and for the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government itself in responding to a non-natural disaster, namely Covid-19, So the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government in anticipation has issued several models of policy forms starting from the first time Covid-19 entered East Kalimantan, March 2020 because of that Mahakam Ulu Regency could anticipate the speed of the spread of Covid-19 so that it could maintain a green zone for about 5 months with a total of 0 cases. As stated by Rian (2017) Policy is every decision made and designed by the state, as a strategy in realizing the country's goals. This is in accordance with the emergence of non-natural disasters or the Covid-19 outbreak so the issuance of national instructions for handling COVID-19 by the state must be coordinated by the regional government.

Therefore, the first thing the Mahakam Ulu District Government did was to form a task force team or Rapid Action Team (TGC), as explained by the second informant through interviews. The second informant explained that the first stage carried out in dealing with Covid-19 was the establishment of a TGC (Quick Action Team) which consisted of the Regent of Mahakam Ulu Regency, the Health Officer, the Hospital Isolation Team, the Team at the Hospital, several related OPDs working there until the village level is involved. After the formation of the Rapid Action Team (TGC), the Mahakam Ulu Government-issued several main policies such as tightening the rules for entering and exiting the area commonly known as access to open and close the area which aims to limit activities by the community in terms of traveling, especially in and out of the Mahakam Ulu area in order to prevent the spread of the virus. Covid-19. The initial step taken by the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government is basically the right step. This is in line with the opinion Nicola et al (2020) that at the local level, hospitals are advised to establish a local incident management team consisting of a clear chain of command including clinical director, managerial director, a single point of reference to the regional command center as well as the public. health

specialist. Further Nicola et al (2020) as countries enter different stages of a pandemic, leaders must develop the courage to suddenly change the direction of health policy when necessary, including local governments.

This was also conveyed by the first informant, namely from the Rapid Action Team and also as the Head of the Mahakam Ulu District Health Office in an interview with the author, he stated that:

"The Mahakam Ulu Regency Government has tightened access in and out as an effort to prevent and also the establishment of a guard post in each village and RT which functions to monitor and provide education to the public. The Wasdalkes (Health Monitoring and Control) post is located on 3 routes, namely the river in the Mamahak Teboq area, the air at Nawacita Datah Dawai airport, and the land route at kilo 12 Kubar-Mahulu" (Interview, 26 June 2021).

The tightened entry and exit access serve to prevent the spread of Covid-19 cases carried from outside by travelers, both directly from people with Mahakam Ulu ID cards and non-Mahakam Ulu ID cards. In addition, in the Mahakam Ulu Regency area, each village and RT has a Covid officer who functions to monitor the condition of their respective citizens and also provide education to residents of their respective villages or RT. And each border of Mahakam Ulu Regency has 3 Wasdalkes Command Posts that guard the land, river, and air routes that function to check the personal data of travelers who want to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area. Checked files such as entry permit (SIMAS), Vaccine certificate if any, Lab checking results, whether it's PCR Swab test results, Genos, Antigen, or Rapid Tests and carrying out re-checking of the Lab at the Wasdalkes Post whether it's checking Genos money PCR swab, or antigen according to the request of the officer at the Wasdalkes post.

The following is a picture of the Health Monitoring and Control Post (Pos Wasdalkes) located on the Mamahak Teboq border in the Mahakam Ulu Regency which was taken by the author during field observations.

**Figure: Health Monitoring and Control Post (Wasdalkes)**



Source: Authors Documentation

The picture above is the Wasdalkes Post (Health Monitoring and Control Post) located on the border of Mahakam Ulu Regency in the Mamahaq Tebok area. Based on the author's observations in the field, the Wasdalkes Post functions to monitor and record travelers who want to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area. The point is to carry out the tracking and monitoring process while in the Mahakam Ulu Regency area through data that has been filled in by the traveler.

And if there are travelers who do not have an entry permit (SIMAS) or incomplete requirements, they cannot continue their journey to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area. The number of travelers who are served by officers every day is not necessarily due to adjusting to the number of travelers on that day. While at the Wasdalkes Post, travelers will carry out several checks, starting with the documents for entering the Mahakam Ulu Regency area such as SIMAS (Entry Permit) which is a permit to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area that must be owned by travelers. at the Wasdalkes Post, after going through the file validation process, the traveler will then be subjected to a Swab check, be it antigen, genos, or PCR in accordance with the provisions issued by the handling officer at the Wasdalkes Post. The following is a picture of the Mahakam Ulu Regency Entrance Permit.

For travelers who want to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area, they can enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area during the opening period with the condition that they must have an entry permit (SIMAS) first. To obtain an entry permit (SIMAS), travelers must first fill out and submit an entry permit application form to the permit administration officer, through the telephone number listed on the form and complete the requested requirements such as the results of the PCR Swab test. The stages of making SIMAS have several categories, each category has different requirements for more details can be seen in the following table:

**Tabel: Category and Conditions for Making SIMAS**

<b>Departing from outside the province of East Kalimantan</b>	<b>Departing from a Regency/City in the Province of East Kalimantan Non Mahulu Identity Card</b>	<b>Departing from Regency/City in East Kalimantan Province with Mahulu Identity Card</b>
a. Filling and Submitting the SIMAS Form b. Attach the results of the Swab / PCR / TCM examination with negative results from a hospital, clinic, or health laboratory with a minimum	a. Fill out and submit the SIMAS Form and travel screening data. b. Attach the results of the Swab/PRC/TCM examination or can be replaced with the RDT/Rapid Test Corona 2 times with a distance of the first and second examinations of	a. Fill out and submit the SIMAS Form b. Attach the SIKA legally issued by the Task Force (To get a Free Rapid Test at a predetermined place). c. Attach the results of the Swab/PRC/TCM examination or it can be replaced with an

<p>examination 3 days before departure.</p> <p>c. The validity period of the results of the Swab/PRC/TCM examination is 14 days, starting from the time it is issued by the examining institution.</p> <p>d. For travelers who come from the Border District of Malinau Mahulu, West Kalimantan-Mahulu, and others, whose areas do not have a Corona Swab/PCR/RDT examination, they must attach a health letter from a local doctor stating there are no symptoms of influenza or 4 major symptoms Covid-19 and he is welcome to pass without continuing to stay overnight in residential areas in the Mahakam Ulu area, if he has to stay overnight he will be quarantined in a special place</p>	<p>at least 7 days and the second examination carried out at least 3 days before going to Mahakam Ulu.</p> <p>c. The validity period of the examination results is 14 days after being issued by the Examining Institution.</p> <p>d. SIMAS and the results of the Swab/PCR/TCM Negative Examination and the results of the non-reactive rapid tests 1 and 2, must be brought and shown to the guard at the Wasdalkes Post.</p> <p>e. Not subject to Mandatory Quarantine for travelers who meet the requirements and can immediately carry out their duties or work under the supervision of local health officers.</p> <p>f. If the traveler can only show one rapid test result, or two rapid test results but not at least 7 days apart, then the traveler must be subject to a centralized quarantine period in a predetermined place (Quarantine House/Housing Earth) for a minimum of 7 days and After the quarantine period is complete, you must re-examine the Corona RDT at the nearest puskesmas or hospital at your own expense.</p>	<p>RDT/Rapid Test Corona 2 times with a distance of the first and second examinations of at least 7 days and the second examination carried out 3 days before going to Mahakam Ulu.</p> <p>d. The validity period of the results of the Swab/RDT examination is 14 days, starting from the time they are issued by the Examining Institution.</p> <p>e. The Task Force can issue SIMAS or legalize the permit submitted as approval to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area, if all requirements have been met.</p> <p>f. SIMAS and the results of the Swab/PRC/TCM/Rapid Test 1 and 2 are brought and shown to the guard at the Wasdalkes post</p> <p>g. Not subject to mandatory quarantine for travelers who meet the requirements and can carry out their duties or work under the supervision of local health officials.</p> <p>h. If a traveler can only show one rapid test result, or two rapid test results but not at least 7 days apart, then the traveler must be</p>
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	<p>g. For travelers who are not KTP Mahakam Ulu, if they are subject to a centralized quarantine obligation or in a special place, the daily living expenses (eating and drinking) are borne by themselves, the officers only assist in ordering daily necessities.</p> <p>h. If the traveler cannot show the results of the Swab/PCR/TCM/Rapid Test at all, then they are not allowed to enter the Mahakam Ulu area.</p>	<p>subject to a minimum 7 day quarantine period, either self-quarantining at their respective homes or centralized quarantine in the place that has been determined according to the results of the screening from the officer and after the quarantine period is complete, you are required to re-examine the Corona RDT at the nearest Puskesmas or Hospital without being charged or free of charge.</p> <p>i. For travelers who have a Mahakam Ulu ID card, if they are subject to a centralized quarantine obligation or in a special place, the cost of daily living (eating and drinking) is free. j) If the traveler cannot show the results of the Swab/PCR/TCM/Rapid Test at all, then they are not allowed to enter the Mahakam Ulu area</p>
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Source: the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Mahakam Ulu Nomor 9 Tahun 2020*

After the form is submitted and completes the existing requirements, then the entry permit will be issued no later than 3 X 24 hours by the officer, along with a picture of the form and SIMAS.

Figure: Form SIMAS

**2. Data Penerimaan**

Nama: [List of names and addresses]

NO ADMIN TGT :	8822-5546-7814
	8822-5546-7815
	8822-5505-9216
	8822-5766-3899

Figure: SIMAS

**SATUAN TUGAS PENANGANAN COVID-19 KABUPATEN MAHAKAM ULU**

Daftar Nama: [List of names and phone numbers]

Daftar Tugas: [List of administrative tasks]

Source: Author's Document

The tightening of access in and out conveyed by the *Instruksi Kepala Dinas Kesehatan Mahakam Ulu Nomor 188.6/4714/DINKES-TU.P/IV/2020*, concerning controlling the spread of Corona Virus Disease (Covid-19), namely making temporary opening and closing rules for accessing the border which started in May and ended on April 30, 2020. Then the open and closed access was continued with the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Nomor 2 Tahun 2020* concerning the Regulation of Access to the Mahakam Ulu Regency Area in the Context of Controlling the Spread of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak. it explains implementing a temporary opening and closing system for access to the Mahakam Ulu Regency area, both by land and river, taking turns with the provisions of being open for 1 week and closing for 2 weeks, which is in effect from 18 May 2020 to 20 July 2020.

Subsequently, it was replaced with the regent's instruction Number 7 of 2020 concerning Regulation of Access to the Mahakam Ulu Regency Area in the Context of Controlling the Spread of the Corona Virus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak, namely by changing the opening and closing period which was originally 1 week open, and 2 weeks closed to 2 weeks. 1 week of opening and 2 weeks of closing valid from July 20, 2020, to October 26, 2020. In the next opening and closing period, follow the previous period with 2 weeks open 2 weeks closed then Instruction Number 7 of 2020 is still valid until the latest instructions are issued. What is meant by the closing period is the period when everyone is not allowed to enter the Mahakam Ulu Regency area except for

people who carry out important and strategic tasks and or with special permission from the Regent as chairman of the Covid-19 Handling Task Force.

It seems that the implementation of opening and closing access to the Mahakam Ulu area is one of the keys for five months of not having Covid-19 cases. Mongolia and Taiwan did the same thing. As a country that has access to and geographical proximity to China, it is important to limit access to entry. Initial border control has, by far, been one of the most effective preventive measures taken, resulting in very low infection rates in some countries and states such as Mongolia and Taiwan (Erkhembayar et al., 2020; Wang, Ng, & Brook, 2020).

Apart from the area opening and closing policy implemented by Mahakam Ulu Regency, the regional government also has several programs to prevent the spread of the Covid-19 virus, namely by distributing vitamins to the surrounding community and also tracking those traveling outside the Mahakam Ulu Regency area. . This was also explained by the second informant to the author through interviews:

"The Mahakam Ulu Health Office has several programs, including distributing vitamins to the community and also conducting tracking to prevent further spread of covid" (Interview, June 21, 2021).

This was also conveyed by the first informant as the Head of the Mahakam Ulu District Health Office through interviews:

"The Mahakam Ulu Health Service also moves around providing education, spraying disinfectant from house to house, places of worship, government offices, distributing vitamins for residents and the Mahulu Regency Government also follows the rules from the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB) which requires those who want to enter Mahakam Ulu for the swab test, the RDT test 2 times with an interval of at least 7 days before entering Mahakam Ulu, the Mahulu Regency Government also conducted a mass rapid test which was carried out with a sampling system, especially for exposed vulnerable groups that had been mapped out by the team to ensure health and safety in the area. all of Mahulu" (Interview, 16 June 2021).

Based on the results of field observations, the author also found a quarantine place prepared by the Mahakam Ulu Regency Government which functions as a quarantine place for travelers or people affected by Covid-19. The exact location is at the Ujoh Bilang Health Center. As explained by the first informant, Mahakam Ulu Regency has also made quarantine places in each sub-district and prepared 3 Covid Centers located at the Long Hubung Health Center, Ujoh Bilang Health Center, and Nawacita Hospital for the Hulu area.

The experience and responsiveness of the Mahulu Regency Government are actually carried out by every region in Indonesia, even every country in the world. However, in terms of the effectiveness of Mahakam Ulu Regency, the author can say that it is going well. This is based on his achievements in five months there were no cases of Covid-19. This is also done by several countries in the world, one of which is Mongolia. State-led control measures to contain the spread of the new coronavirus, COVID-19, are diverse. Originating from Wuhan, China, in December 2019, the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a pandemic by WHO on March 11, 2020. Recognizing the severity of the outbreak, and having the longest

common border with China, the Mongolian Government activated the State Emergency Committee in January 2020, based on the *Undang-Undang Tahun 2017* concerning Disaster Protection. As a result, various public health measures have been taken which led to the postponement of the first confirmed case of COVID-19 until March 10, 2020, and without intensive care or death until July 6, 2020. These measures include promoting universal personal protection. and prevention, such as the use of masks and hand washing, restrictions on international travel, the cessation of all training and educational activities from kindergartens to universities, and the prohibition of large public gatherings such as the celebration of the New Year's National Holiday. These measures have been accompanied by active infection surveillance and self-isolation recommendations (Erkhempay et al., 2020). The cases of Mongolia and Mahakam Ulu demonstrate that with a strong prevention system, an effective response to a pandemic. The differences in their approach can be explained by cultural differences such as styles of government or political systems, policy-making handling, perceptions of the need to preserve individual freedoms during actions taken by governments, and varying understandings of collective responsibility.

## **E. CONCLUSSION**

Based on the results of the research discussed in the previous chapter, the conclusion of this study is that Mahakam Ulu Regency uses the Institutional Public Policy model, namely the basic concept of public policy by Thomas R. Dye in Sri Suwitri (2011) in which a policy is designed and realized by government institutions. which are legitimacy, universality, and coercion by the Legislative, Executive, and judicial institutions of local government. In handling Covid-19, Mahakam Ulu Regency has issued policies such as access to temporary opening and closing of the Mahakam Ulu Regency area which is contained in the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Nomor 4 Tahun 2020*, the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Nomor 7 Tahun 2020*, and the *Instruksi Kepala Daerah Nomor 9 Tahun 2020* which states that temporary opening and closing access is carried out with a period of 2 open weeks and 2 weeks closed. And in a closed situation, travelers are not allowed to enter except with special permission from the Regent of Mahakam Ulu Regency and during the opening period for travelers who want to enter Mahakam Ulu Regency, they must first fill out SIMAS (Entry Permit) through the Task Force Team and follow the requirements -Other requirements such as PCR or Antigen Swab Test according to the decision of the Task Force Team.

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