Hikers welcome Selangor forestry permit system for 70 locations

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Users can choose from 52 mountain and 18 waterfall locations under JPNS jurisdiction using the SeForest system. - Filepic

Hikers in Selangor welcome the launch of a new online permit system, saying it will make access to forest trails more convenient.

Persatuan Aktiviti Sukan Rekreasi Advantura Hikers chairman Mohd Azlan Mohd Noor said the online system was long overdue.

"There are many hikers who want to use Selangor's forest trails but didn't bother with permits because the old process required physical applications," he said.

"I haven't tried the new system myself, but I hope it is user-friendly," he said.



Azlan, whose organisation has around 6,000 members, praised the move by Selangor Forestry Department (JPNS).

"Other states have had similar systems for some time.

"In Negri Sembilan, for example, you can get a permit from a park ranger at the trailhead – that is far more convenient," he added.

The SeForest system went live on April 1 at forestry.selangor.gov.my/permit/home, covering 52 mountains and hills as well as 18 waterfall locations under JPNS' jurisdiction.

With the new platform, more outdoor enthusiasts are expected to comply with regulations.

Popular sites include Bukit Lagong, Bukit Saga, Bukit Broga, Sungai Chiling, Air Terjun Batu Asah and Jeram Kubang Gajah.

After trying out the system, hiker Nisha Subramaniam, 37, said she would now apply for permits in advance.

The Cheras resident, a frequent hiker at Bukit Saga, said it was a useful facility as people would not have time to go to the Forestry office during weekdays.

"This online process is easy to follow," she added.

The website also states whether a mountain guide is required and outlines daily visitor limits for each trail.

Permits are priced at RM5 per person.

Visitors must apply at least 48 hours before their intended hike and must make payment within 24 hours of receiving approval.

Under the National Forestry Act 1984, anyone entering a permanent forest reserve without a permit faces a fine of up to RM30,000 or up to five years in prison.