pantau gambut

Fact Sheet

August 2026 Hotspots Surge by 1,006 Percent

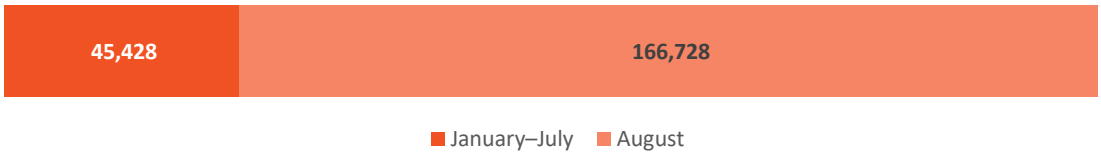
Results of the hotspot distribution analysis for the period of January–August 2026

Jakarta, 1 September 2026

The Surge Occurred In Just A Single Month

Pantau Gambut's analysis shows that throughout August 2026, hotspots in Peat Hydrological Units (KHG) surged by 1,006.6% to 166,728 points compared to the previous month (15,067 points). The number of hotspots in August alone accounted for approximately 78.6% of the total 212,156 points recorded during the January–August 2026 period.

August Fire Hotspots Outnumber Total Recorded Between January and July 2026

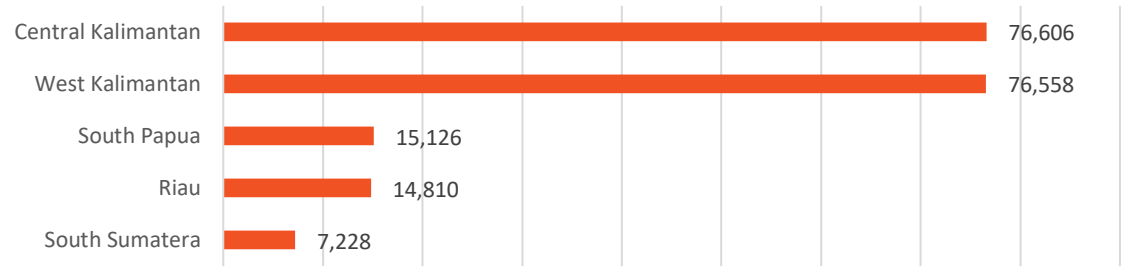


Below is the hotspot distribution categorized by group:

Hotspot Distribution by Functional Classification August 2026	
Peatland Ecosystem Function	**Hotspots**
Protected Peat Ecosystem Function	110,636
Cultivated Peat Ecosystem Function	101,520
Total	**212,156**

During the August 2026 period, several provinces recorded particularly striking increases in hotspots. Central Kalimantan registered 73,183 hotspots, an increase of approximately 2,494.2% compared to July 2026 (2,821 hotspots). South Kalimantan also experienced a significant surge, rising from 154 hotspots in July to 4,257 in August—an increase of roughly 2,664.3%. This sharp rise warrants urgent attention, as hotspot figures in South Kalimantan had previously remained at relatively lower levels.

Top Five Provinces with the Highest Number of Hotspots
January–August 2026



Hotspots within Concessions

Spatial overlay analysis shows a concentration of hotspots within areas covered by land rights or permits. The following list presents the top ten areas with the highest number of hotspots on August 2026:

Plantation Concessions (HGU)

41,807

Accounted for 25.1% of August hotspots, representing a 1,355.7% increase from July (2,872 hotspots).

Forestry Concessions (PBPH)

7,192

Representing a 962.3% increase from July, when 677 hotspots were detected.

Top 10 Corporations with Cultivation Rights Title (HGU) Permits
August 2026

Corporation	Province	Hotspots
PT Mekar Karya Kahuripan	West Kalimantan	4,474
PT Arrtu Energie Resources	West Kalimantan	3,890
PT Sinar Karya Mandiri	West Kalimantan	2,596
PT Kayung Agro Lestari	West Kalimantan	2,309
PT Sebukit Inter Nusa	West Kalimantan	2,116
PT Kalbar Inti Plantation	West Kalimantan	1,485
PT Abadi Mulia Sentosa	West Kalimantan	1,262
PT Central Sejahtera Sukses	Central Kalimantan	1,151
PT Jalin Vaneo	West Kalimantan	1,029
PT Agro Nusa Abadi	Central Sulawesi	1,022

Top 10 Corporations with Forest Utilization Business Licenses (PBPH)
August 2026

Corporation	Province	Hotspots
PT Mayawana Persada	West Kalimantan	1,635
PT Mohairson Pawan Khatulistiwa	West Kalimantan	1,382
PT Rimba Rokan Lestari	Riau	1,185
PT Damai Setiatama Timber	South Papua	607
PT Selaras Inti Semesta	South Papua	439
PT Rimbun Seruyan	Central Kalimantan	437
PT Rimba Raya Conservation	Central Kalimantan	416
PT Diamond Raya Timber	Riau	270
PT Paramitra Mulia Langgeng	South Sumatera	250
PT Bumi Mekar Hijau	South Sumatera	237

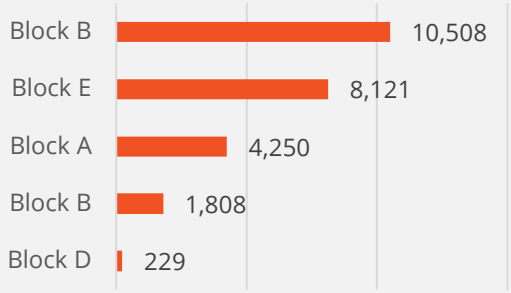
Two Areas Requiring Attention

The analysis also identified a concentration of hotspots within the Republic of Indonesia government's strategic program areas in Central Kalimantan and South Papua.

Hotspots in Central Kalimantan Food Estate Area (August 2026)

24,916 hotspots

This Strategic National Project was first initiated during President Soeharto's era and revived under Joko Widodo. Today, large tracts of this land remain completely neglected.



Hotspots in South Papua Food, Energy, and Water Self-sufficiency Zone (August 2026)

9,536 hotspots

Forest Area Reclassification Zone under Ministry Decision No. 591/2025 for National Food, Energy, and Water Self-Sufficiency

Regency/City	Hotspots
Boven Digoel	49
Mappi	20
Merauke	9,467

Media Contacts

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Why Peatlands Matter

Indonesia holds the world's largest tropical peatlands, covering approximately 13.43 million hectares across Sumatra, Kalimantan, and Papua. Indonesian peatlands store roughly 57 gigatons of carbon—about 20 times more than ordinary mineral soil. When peatlands are drained or converted, these carbon reserves are released into the atmosphere as greenhouse gases, accelerating climate change.

Beyond carbon storage, peatlands play a crucial role in regulating water systems, mitigating flood and drought risks, and serving as a habitat for rich biodiversity. Protecting peatlands is therefore a vital component of global climate change mitigation efforts. For more information on peatlands, visit en.pantaugambut.id/peat-101.

About Pantau Gambut

Pantau Gambut is a non-governmental organization operating a network across nine Indonesian provinces, focused on research, advocacy, and campaigns to promote sustainable peatland protection and management. Pantau Gambut monitors commitments made by the government, independent organizations, and the private sector regarding peatland protection and restoration, while encouraging public involvement in overseeing the governance of these wetland ecosystems through various communication and campaign channels.