



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office**  
**MIMAROPA Region**  
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November 07, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** : The Regional Executive Director  
DENR MIMAROPA  
1515 DENR By the Bay Bldg., Roxas Boulevard,  
Barangay 668, Ermita Manila

**THRU** : The OIC Regional Assistant Director for Technical Services

**FROM** : The Provincial Environment and  
Natural Resources Officer

**SUBJECT** : **CONSERVATION EFFORTS: PATROLLING AND  
POPULATION COUNTING OF THE ENDANGERED  
PHILIPPINE COCKATOO ON THE ISLAND OF PANDANAN,  
BALABAC, PALAWAN**

Forwarded is the memorandum dated October 19, 2023 from CENRO Brooke's Point, Palawan along with the Report on the conducted Conservation efforts/activities facilitated by the CENRO Team in collaboration with the KATALA Foundation Inc. (KFI) lead by Mr. Rene Antonio from October 12-18, 2023 on the island of Pandanan, Balabac, Palawan.

Please be informed that during the conduct of the said activity, it was observed that the presence of cockatoos in the residential area of the Island is quite apparent. In addition, the team documented a total of 16 incidences of tree cutting activities with species such as impao, balangihan, alalud, ipil, amugis and aluyao tress. The team also apprehended abandoned lumbers of amugis species with a total of 176 board feet in volume. The apprehended items are now temporarily deposited in Barangay Pandanan.

The team also recommend to strengthen the collaboration with KFI, government agencies and Private sectors/parties to further enhance the protection of Island of Pandanan, Balabac, Palawan.

For information and record.

"For the PENRO"

  
**RONIE B. GANDEZA**  
DMO V/CHIEF, TSD  
In-Charge, Office of the PENRO



DENR-PALAWAN  
PENRO-RECORDS  
**RELEASED**  
By \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: 08 NOV 2023 CN 23-3170



October 19, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The Regional Executive Director  
DENR MIMAROPA Region  
1515 DENR By the Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard,  
Barangay 668, Ermita, Manila

**THRU :** The Provincial Environment and  
Natural Resources Officer  
Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

**FROM :** The Community Environment and  
Natural Resources Officer

**SUBJECT :** **CONSERVATION EFFORTS: PATROLLING AND POPULATION  
COUNTING OF THE ENDANGERED PHILIPPINE COCKATOO  
ON THE ISLAND OF PANDANAN, BALABAC, PALAWAN**

DENR PENRO  
PALAWAN RECORDS  
**RECEIVED**  
BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ON \_\_\_\_\_

Forwarded/endorsed herewith is the Memorandum Report dated October 19, 2023 of the personnel of CENRO Brooke's Point, Palawan relative to the above-cited conservation efforts/activities facilitated by the CENRO Team together with the Katala Foundation Inc. (KFI) personnel led by Mr. Rene Antonio from October 12-18, 2023 on the island of Pandanan, Balabac, Palawan.

Based on the report submitted, the team observed that the presence of cockatoos in residential areas on the island is quite apparent. In addition, the team likewise documented a total of 16 incidences of tree cutting activities and had apprehended abandoned lumbers of amugis species having an aggregated volume of 176 board feet. The apprehended items are now temporarily deposited in the compound of Barangay Pandanan. Punong Barangay Nestor Gabinete of Barangay Pandanan had been informed about the illegal cutting of trees documented within their area of jurisdiction and has positively responded to the request of the team for assistance in monitoring the area.

In connection therewith, it is informed that due to logistic constraints faced by CENRO Brooke's Point in conducting regular on-site monitoring and frequent visits on the island, efforts to address environmental threats and conducting in-depth investigations to determine the perpetrators responsible for illegal cutting activities in the area which poses threats to the habitat conservation of the Philippine Cockatoos are hindered/impeded particularly given its location and distance from the CENRO office and the Balabac Sub-Office.

In this regard, this office concurs with and reiterates the team's recommendations to seek assistance from KFI personnel/patrollers who have been deputized as Special Deputy Environment and Natural Resources Officers (SDENROs) to enhance protection efforts on the island. Additionally, coordination with KFI and other concerned agencies, barangay and municipal LGUs, and private parties should be facilitated to establish a Memorandum of

7.

Agreement in intensifying/enhancing protection and conservation efforts on the island. This collaboration could include conducting Intensified Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) and other developmental activities to further promote and attain the objectives of the Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Program. Moreover, the possibility of deputizing the security personnel (SCAA) of the private company as SDENROs could also be discussed.

For your information, record and further instruction.

  
LEONARD T. CALUYA





October 19, 2023

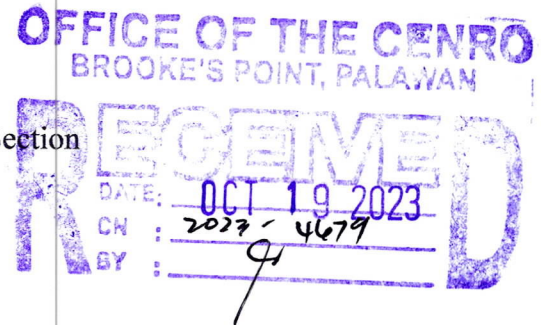
**MEMORANDUM**

FOR : The Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer

Thru : The Chief, Monitoring and Enforcement Section

FROM : Forest Technician I/Team Leader  
Forest Rangers  
Balabac Sub-Office

SUBJECT : **CONSERVATION EFFORTS: PATROLLING AND POPULATION COUNTING OF THE ENDANGERED PHILIPPINE COCKATOO ON THE ISLAND OF PANDANAN, BALABAC, PALAWAN**



Based on the information available on their website ([www.philippinecockatoo.org](http://www.philippinecockatoo.org)), the Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Program is a species conservation program with the primary objective of preventing the Philippine cockatoo from becoming extinct. Their approach includes various strategies such as nest protection, identifying and safeguarding crucial conservation sites, restoring habitats, educating about conservation, involving local communities, rescuing individual birds, translocation efforts, and establishing conservation breeding programs for potential future reintroduction. The most recent site, **Pandanán** in **Balabac, Palawan**, is a notable addition to the program.

One of the daily routines of KFI personnel involves the meticulous tracking of Phil. cockatoo populations, aiming to **discern a year-long trend**. During the initial involvement of the DENR team in the cockatoo census on June 2, 2023, we meticulously recorded **80** individuals. During our most recent visit to the island on October 12 and 13, 2023, the DENR team took part in the census, revealing a count of **50** individuals in the afternoon and an impressive **131** individuals the following morning. The presence of the cockatoos in residential areas on the island is also quite noticeable (as depicted in Figure 1).



*There are cockatoos freely flying around some houses on the island.*

During the entire week, our activities comprised population counting and patrolling the conservation areas of the island.

Hereunder are the details of the conducted activity:

**Date:** October 12-18, 2023

**Patrol Team:**

1. The undersigned personnel
2. Katala Foundation Inc. personnel: Led by Rene Antonio

**Objectives:**

- Counting and monitoring of Philippine cockatoo population
- The primary objectives were to monitor and patrol the designated areas, thereby ensuring the visibility of law enforcement agencies in safeguarding wildlife.

**Methods:** The patrol was conducted on foot within the conservation areas of the Island Barangay. Patrollers used the Cybertracker app to accurately document their observations, encompassing data related to forest conditions, potential threats, and wildlife (refer to Figure 2). These patrols were closely coordinated with the relevant Barangay authorities. The Philippine Cockatoo counting was performed manually.



*Figure 2. Documentation of threats (cutting of tree)*

**PATROL OBSERVATIONS**

**Forest Condition:** The forest exhibited varying conditions, ranging from open-cultivated areas to old-growth forest zones

**Threats:**

- The team encountered evidence of tree cutting, with species such as impao, balangihan, alalud, ipil, amugis, and aluyao trees being affected (as depicted in Figure 3).
- The team also apprehended an abandoned lumber, a species of amugis, with a total 176 board feet and immediately deposited it temporarily with the Barangay (Figure 4).



*Figure 3: During the patrol, the team documented a total of 16 illegally cut trees.*



*Figure 4. Documented and deposited temporarily in the Barangay compound of Pandanan.*

**Action taken:** Coordination with the concerned LGU and inform them regarding the illegal cutting of trees documented by the team. Punong Barangay Nestor Gabinete was also personally spoken to in order to relay the incidents. The Barangay Captain responded positively to the information (picture below)



## RECOMMENDATIONS

In light of the successful completion of the population counting and habitat monitoring for the cockatoos, with the team having documented a total of 16 incidents of tree cutting and having confiscated abandoned lumber, the team respectfully puts forth the following suggestions:

1. **Enhance Protection:** Given that KFI patrollers hold the designation of Special Deputy Environment and Natural Resources Officer, it is recommended to strengthen the protection efforts on the island.
2. **Coordination with Katala Foundation Inc.:** The Katala Foundation Inc. should consider facilitating collaboration with the Office for Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) to further the objectives of the program.
3. **Coordination and possible partnership with private company:** It is advisable to communicate with the private company to explore the possibility of deputizing their security personnel (SCAA) as Special Deputy Environment and Natural Resources Officers (SDENRO) for enhanced environmental conservation efforts.

For his information and record.

  
RJ KEITH IMMANUEL I. IDLANA

  
JEFFREY F. SETIAS

  
BIMBO B. VICENTE

  
APRIL ANNE T. GRACIANO