

MEMORANDUM

TO : **The Regional Executive Directors**
All DENR Regions except CAR

FROM : The Undersecretary for Special Concerns
and OIC Director

SUBJECT : **NATIONAL ORIENTATION FOR THE ROLL-OUT OF THE
PHILIPPINE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU)
FISHING INDEX AND THREAT ASSESSMENT TOOL (I-FIT)**

DATE :

In line with the implementation of the BFAR-BMB Convergence towards integrated, science-based and sustainable co-management of the Philippines coastal and marine resources and environment, may we invite you and your representatives to the conduct of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) National Orientation of the Philippines Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Index and Threat Assessment Tool for DENR Regional and Field Offices scheduled on **27 July 2021, 9AM - 12PM**, for the presentation of the tool’s overview and scope, and determination of way-forward and targeted activities for 2021, among others.

As an overview, the IUU fishing assessment using the I-FIT Tool seeks to provide an in-depth understanding of the vulnerability, prevalence and current responses to IUU fishing in specific sites, to be consolidated to form an encompassing work in the development and implementation of long-term solutions to threats to biodiversity and the coastal and marine environment.

Initially, BFAR proposes for the conduct of such IUU fishing assessment in priority NIPAS MPAs in order to contribute to the national baseline this year, while at the same time, incorporating this in the Protected Areas Management Plans. The orientation will likewise serve as a venue to explore discussions to incorporate additional indicators in the I-FIT Tool that would be relevant and apt for NIPAS areas. With high regards to this collaboration, we believe that this will be a good avenue in strengthening good relations and camaraderie between DENR and BFAR’s regional and field offices, and will further establish the coordination and communication for the protection and conservation of the Philippine waters.

The meeting details are as follows:

Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/2566207658?pwd=dHJvTU5UL2h2Snp4TGJtWXJFdkNCdz09>
Meeting ID: 256 620 7658
Passcode: 10101010

Meanwhile, as preliminary discussed during the meeting last 7 June 2021 between this Bureau, the BFAR, and the USAID, the DENR Regional and Field Offices are likewise enjoined to coordinate with the BFAR regional/field counterparts to initially discuss I-FIT Tool, so as to seek concurrence from your office regarding the conduct of the IUU fishing assessment in priority NIPAS areas, and the possibility of including thereof in the MPA Management Plan. For your ready reference, enclosed is the briefer and other reference materials as well as the tentative program of the national orientation.

Due to the limitations of participants in the Zoom meeting, we are allocating a maximum of 15 logged in devices for each Region, including attendees from the PENR and CENR Offices. The attending

participants from your respective offices may likewise share a device through a projector or monitor sharing in case the number of participants exceeds those of the allocated logged in devices. Kindly provide this Office the list of your representatives **on or before 21 July 2021**. For concerns and other queries, you may contact Ms. Jacqueline V. Concepcion at cmd@bmb.gov.ph or through telephone no. +(632)9258948.

EDILBERTO DC LEONARDO

Program of Activities
National Orientation For The Roll-out Of The Philippine Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Index And Threat Assessment Tool (I-fit)
27 July 2021, 9AM-12PM

Time	Activity	Presenter/Facilitator
08:45 - 9:00 AM	Login and Online Registration of Participants	BMB CMD
09:00 - 9:30 AM	<i>Preliminaries</i> Welcome Message Message from BFAR	Undersecretary Edilberto DC Leonardo Director Eduardo P. Gongona
	Acknowledgement of Participants Overview of the Activity	BMB
9:30 - 11:30 AM	Presentation of the I-FIT Tool Background and Rationale	Mr. Crejay Lacena, BFAR FPLEG Atty. Wilmon Peñalosa and Dr. Mike Atrigenio, Fish Right
11:30 - 11:50 AM	Question and Answer Wrap-up, Summary and Next Steps	BMB/Fish Right BMB
11:50 AM - 12:00 PM	Closing Messages	Assistant Director Amelita DJ Ortiz Assistant Director Samuel Malvas Prof. Nygiel Armada, Fish Right