



MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR – MIMAROPA Region
1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd., Ermita, Manila

FROM : The Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning, and Foreign Assisted and
Special Projects, and Director, in concurrent capacity

SUBJECT : **MAP OF THE COMMUNITY-BASED FOREST
MANAGEMENT (CBFM) OF SAMAHANG MAGSASAKA NG
PALAWAN (SAMAPA)**

DATE : **JUN 18 2021**



This pertains to the Memorandum from the Undersecretary for Enforcement, Mining and Muslim Affairs dated 19 April 2021 forwarding the letter of Mr. Mario R. Sarmiento, Chairman of Samahang Magsasaka ng Palawan (SAMAPA) regarding the submitted map for their applied/proposed CBFMA area.

Per our records, the application of the said PO has not been given due consideration because the applied area is within the Busuanga Pasture Reserve (BPR) wherein pursuant to the provisions of the Presidential Proclamation No. 1387 series of 1975 "*Reserving and establishing as a Pasture Reserve a certain parcel of land of the Public Domain situated in the Island of Busuanga, Province of Palawan*", the area covered by BPR is "*withdraw(n) from sale, settlement or any other form of disposition, exploration or exploitation, and reserved as a pasture reserve*". Hence, the DENR may only issue a tenure instrument that is consistent with the purpose and establishment of BPR which is the Forest Land Grazing Management Agreement (FLGMA).

However, per our Memorandum dated 11 May 2018 (copy hereto attached), it was recommended that if granting CBFMA will be pursued, an area outside the pasture reservation should be identified and evaluated. Hence, the submitted map of the PO undergone verification/validation process with our GIS unit to ascertain if the proposed area is outside the BPR. Based on GIS analysis using the reference maps from the PO and other available datasets, the following are the findings of this Office, to wit:

1. The proposed site has a total area of 5,265.27 hectares;

2. An area covering 2,989.53 hectares is within the BPR;
3. An area of 895.86 hectares within forestland is outside the BPR; and
4. An area of 1,379.86 hectares is within Alienable and Disposable (A&D) Land.

Based on the findings of this Office, please conduct further assessment/validation particularly on the 895.86 hectares of land within forestland that are outside the BPR and determine the best or appropriate use of the identified area considering its proximity to commercial zones.

Attached is the GIS map processed by this Office for reference.

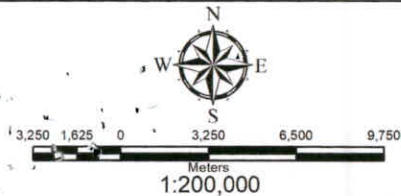
FOR INFORMATION AND FURTHER APPROPRIATE ACTION, PLEASE.


MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR., CESO III

cc: *Mr. Mario R. Sarmiento*
Chairman, SAMAPA
Brgy. Decalachao, Coron, Palawan

The Undersecretary for Enforcement, Mining and Muslim Affairs
DENR Central Office

The Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment
DENR Central Office



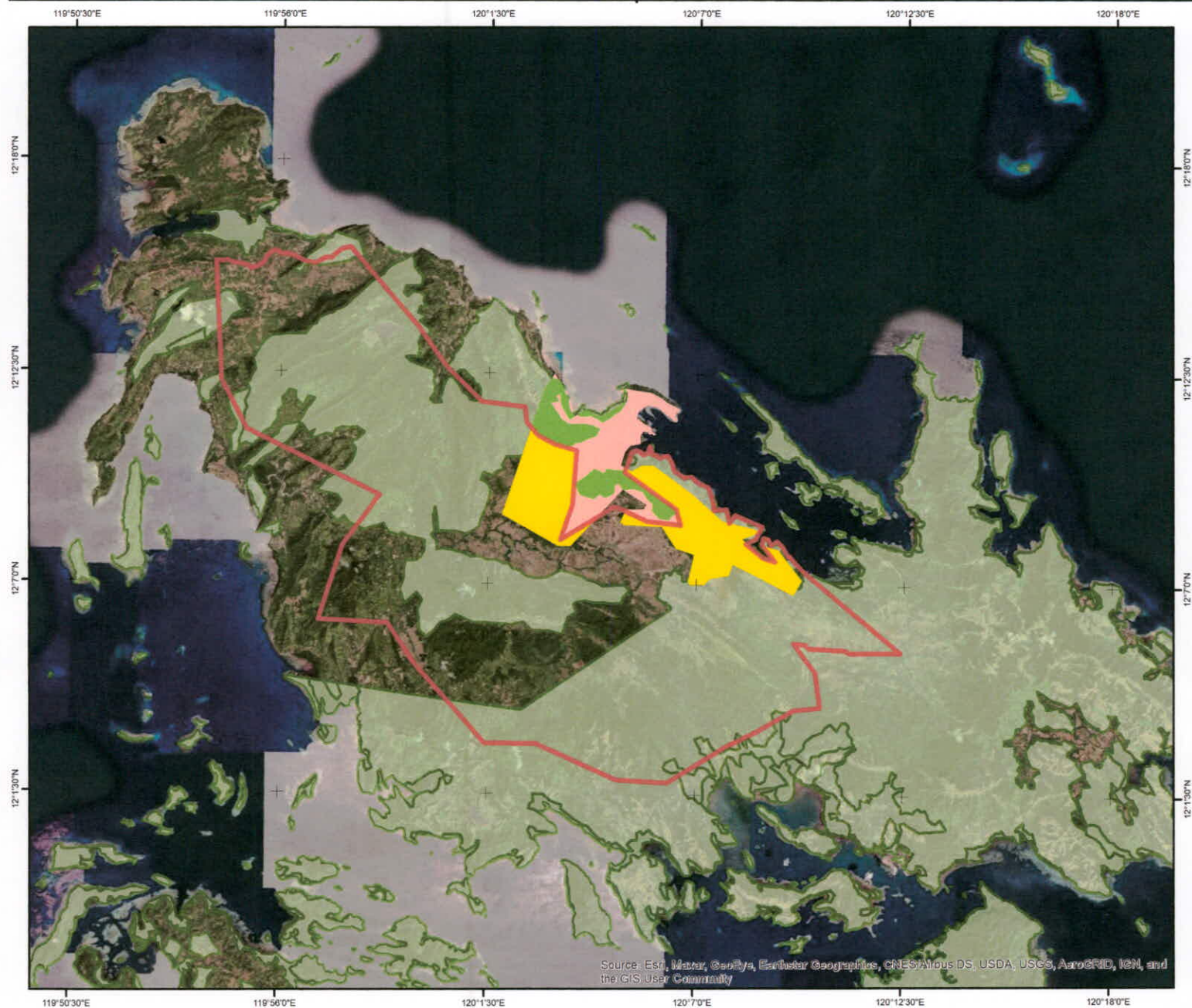
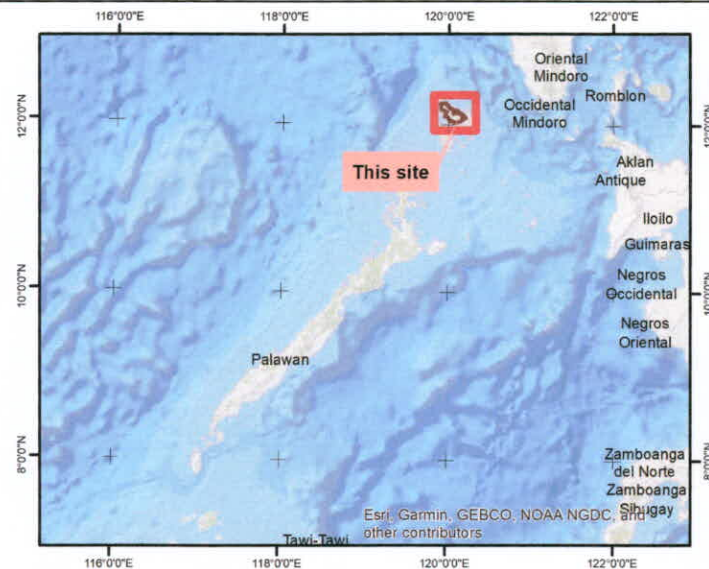
APPLIED CBFM AREA OF SAMAHANG MAGSASAKA NG PALAWAN (SAMAPA)

Location:

Municipality: Coron
Province: Palawan

Total Area: 5,265.26 Hectares

Coordinate System:
Universal Transverse Mercator 50 N, Luzon 1911



Source: Esri, Mapbox, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Legend

Forestland

Busuanga Pasture Reserve

Status of Applied CBFMA in Coron

Area outside BPR but within A and D (1,379.86 Ha.)

Area Outside BPR and within Forestland (895.86 Ha.)

Area within (BPR 2,989.53 ha.)

Source:

CBFM : Region 4B

Forestland: FMB/Field Office/NAMRIA

BPR : FMB

Municipal Boundary ; GADM non- authoritative



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
FOREST MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City

F100 Chief
Sir for your
consideration/initials
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FRMD 490-2
Office of the Assistant Director

The Undersecretary for Field Operations, Luzon

THRU : The Assistant Secretary for Staff Bureaus
FROM : The Director, Forest Management Bureau
SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE PROPOSED COMMUNITY BASED
FOREST MANAGEMENT (CBFM) OR SETTLEMENT
SITE WITHIN BUSUANGA PASTURE RESERVE (BPR),
BUSUANGA ISLAND, PALAWAN**

DATE : MAY 11 2018

This pertains to the Memorandum for the Secretary dated 29 January 2018 report on the DENR Region 4B-MIMAROPA regarding the proposed Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) or settlement site within Busuanga Pasture Reserve (BPR), Busuanga Island, Palawan.

Based on the report of the team created under Regional Special Order No. 302 dated 23 June 2017, there is a need to amend Proclamation No. 1387 (Establishing the Busuanga Pasture Reserve) to exclude the proposed CBFM/settlement site to serve the purpose. Moreover, the conduct of soil analysis is also imperative to determine the suitability of the area for farming/agriculture.

Based on review and evaluation of the report vis-à-vis existing laws and regulations, this Office opines that the proposed area for CBFM/settlement within BPR is not eligible to be a CBFM area due to the following reasons:

1. As stated in Presidential Proclamation No. 1387, s. 1975, the BPR is withdrawn from sale, settlement, or any other form of disposition, exploration or exploitation, and reserve as a pasture reserve, subject to private rights, if any there be, a certain parcel of land of the public domain situated in the island of Busuanga, Province of Palawan;
2. Only upland and coastal lands with communities residing within or adjacent to forestlands are qualified to be a CBFM area as stated in Section 10 of DENR Administrative Order 2004-29;
3. Based on the findings of the BPR Survey Team, the proposed CBFM site has a slope below eighteen percent (<18%). As per Section 16 of PD 705, lands below eighteen per cent (18%) in slope that are needed for forest purposes may not be classified as alienable and disposable land. Proper identification of the proposed area's land classification should be conducted to further evaluate the eligibility of

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- the land as a CBFM/settlement site, with reference to existing and available Land Classification (LC) map covering the area;
4. Moreover, based on the Busuanga Island Chain Master Plan, specifically the land capability and suitability assessment, the BPR shall remain as a Pasture Reserve Zone; and
 5. The Secretary thru a Memorandum to the Regional Director of DENR R4B-MIMAROPA dated 27 November 2017 upholds the protection of the BPR by recalling the Memorandum dated 17 July 2017 which temporarily allowed farmers/informal settlers to continue their planting/farming activities within the BPR. The Secretary also reiterated that the BPR is still withdrawn from disposition, exploration or exploitation, and reserved for pasture purposes.

If granting of a CBFM Agreement will be pursued, it is recommended that an area outside the pasture reservation be identified and evaluated. Further, all farmers in the area must be organized into a People's Organization to qualify in the CBFM Agreement.

FOR THE UNDERSECRETARY'S INFORMATION AND FURTHER INSTRUCTION/S, IF ANY.

NONITO M. TAMAYO, CESO IV

