

FIELD OFFICE ENGAGEMENT (FOE) TERMINAL REPORT

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Submitted in partial requirement for the ENRA Academy Supervisory Course
BATCH 303 – MOLAVE

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Table of Contents

I.	Introduction	3
	• Background	3
	• Objectives	3
	• Expectations	3
II.	CENRO Profile	3
	• Organizational Structure	3
	• Location	4
	• Other Relevant Information about the CENRO	6
III.	Task Details	14
	• On Forestry Matters	14
	• On Biodiversity Matters	19
	• On Land Matters	21
	• On Environment Matters	22
	• On Leadership/Managerial Matters	22
IV.	Insights during FOE in terms of:	27
	• Knowledge	27
	• Skills	28
	• Values	29
V.	Challenges Met	30
VI.	Suggestions and Recommendations	31
VII.	Appendices	
	• Daily Learning Journals	
	• Photographs	

List of Table and Figures

Table 1.	Sex Disaggregated Data of Staff Complement	4
Table 2.	Human Resource Complement by Age Bracket	4
Table 3.	Land Area Coverage and Demographic Profile of CENRO Bislig	6
Table 4.	Land Classification, CENRO Bislig	7
Table 5.	Land Cover	8
Table 6.	Protection and Production Forest, CENRO Bislig	9
Table 7	Protected Areas within the AOR of CENRO Bislig	11
Table 8.	CADT Holders	12
Figure 1.	Organizational Structure of CENRO-Bislig	4
Figure 2.	Location and Areas of Responsibility (AOR) Maps of CENRO Bislig	5
Figure 3.	Map Showing the Administrative Jurisdiction of CENRO Bislig	6
Figure 4.	Map Showing the Land Classification - CENRO Bislig	7
Figure 5.	Map Showing Land Cover - CENRO Bislig	8
Figure 6.	Map Showing the Forest Protection and Production Areas of CENRO Bislig	9
Figure 7.	Map Showing Area Covered by the Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL)	10
Figure 8.	Map Showing Area Covered by the Proposed BARBOLAVA PLS	11
Figure 9.	Map Showing the CADT Areas within the AOR of CENRO Bislig	13

I. INTRODUCTION

- Background

The Field Office Engagement (FOE) is one of the major learning approaches of the ENR Academy – Supervisory Course. It basically immerses the learner in the actual field situation, providing an opportunity, not only to apply the concepts, theories and principles learned in the 20-day classroom sessions but also to enhance technical, leadership and managerial skills through actual exposure and experience.

For my FOE, I chose CENRO-Bislig City under the mentorship of CENR Officer Nathaniel E. Racho. CENRO Racho was my immediate supervisor at PENRO-Dinagat Islands before he was assigned and designated as CENRO of Bislig City.

My field engagement at CENRO Bislig City commenced in September 27, 2021 until October 7, 2021.

- Objectives

- a. To apply the learnings gained from the 20-day classroom sessions;
- b. To gain better understanding of the job of a CENR Officer;
- c. To learn and enhance knowledge and skills on the implementation of various ENR programs/projects/activities in the CENRO

- Expectations

- a. Be afforded full support in the successful conduct of my FOE
- b. Be exposed to various tasks, roles and responsibilities of a CENR Officer
- c. Be provided with the opportunity to closely observe the CENRO, especially on how he acts or deals with partners, colleagues and subordinates;
- d. Be able to learn new knowledge and/or skills

II. CENRO PROFILE

- Human Resources and Organizational Structure

The current staff complement of CENRO Bislig consisted of 63 permanent personnel, 36 males and 27 females and 33 individuals employed as Job Orders with 18 males and 15 females. Majority of the permanent personnel belong to the age bracket of 31-40 years old.

Table 1. Sex Disaggregated Data of Human Resource Complement

Sex	Permanent	Job Orders	Total
Male	36	18	54
Female	27	15	42
Total	63	33	96

Table 2. Human Resource Complement by Age Bracket

Age Bracket	Male	Female	Total
20-30	2	2	4
31-40	10	15	25
41-50	9	7	16
51-60	12	2	14
above 60	3	1	4

CENRO Bislig Organizational Structure

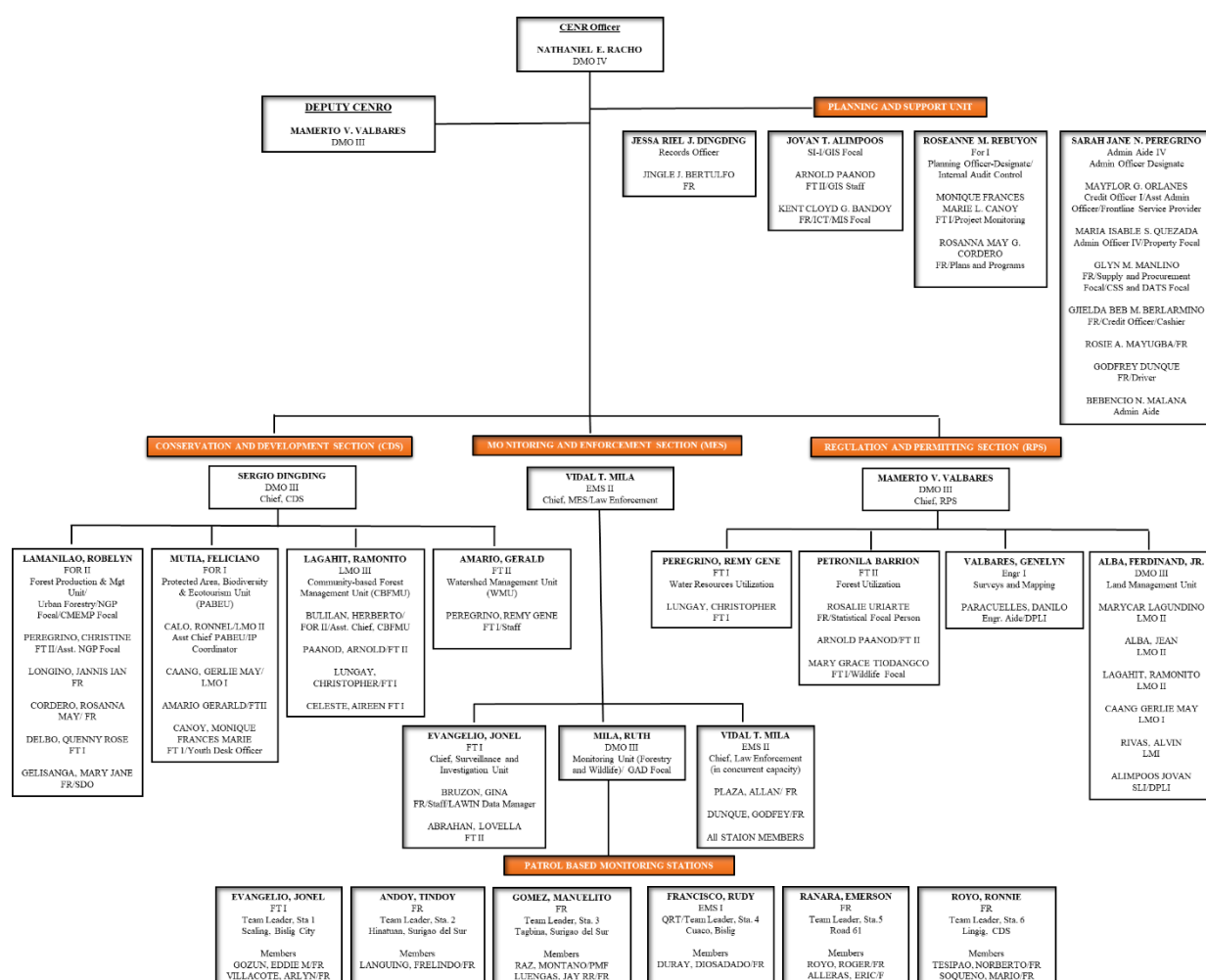


Figure 1. Organizational Structure of CENRO-Bislig

- Location

The Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) of Bislig is presently located at Mangagoy, Bislig City, Surigao del Sur between latitude 8°11'20'', longitude 126°21'17'' lying along the Southern coast of Mindanao Island directly facing the Pacific Ocean. It is bounded with its areas of jurisdictions covering the municipalities of **Hinatuan** (North), **Lingig** (South), **Tagbina** (Northwest) and **City of Bislig** all in the province of Surigao del Sur.

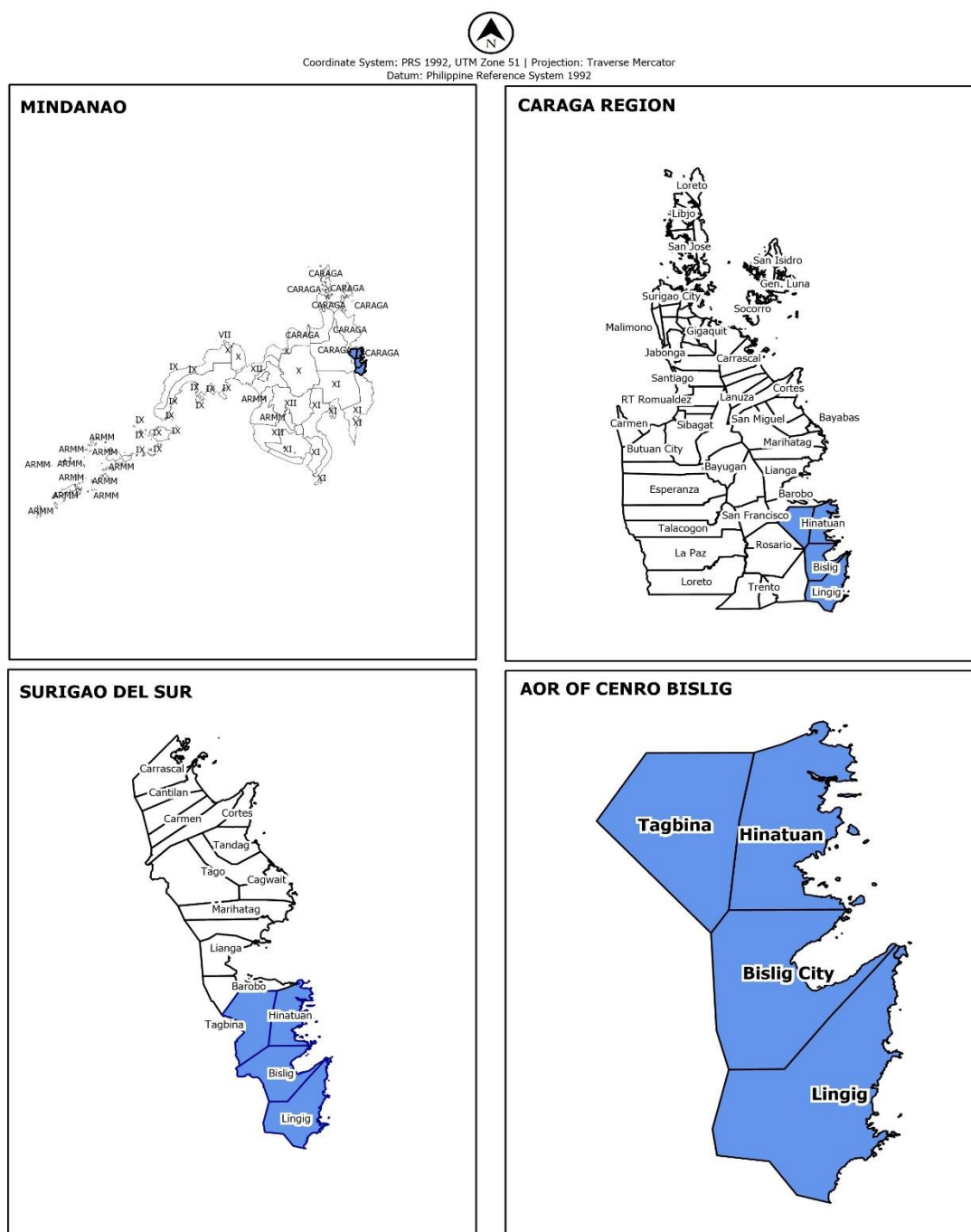


Figure 2. Location and Areas of Responsibility (AOR) Maps of CENRO Bislig

- Other Relevant Information about the CENRO

- a. Land Area, Population and Political Subdivision

The area of responsibility (AOR) of CENRO Bislig covers three (3) municipalities and one (1) city with a total land area of 162,719 hectares. This represents 32.81% of the total land area of the province of Surigao del Sur and 8.97 % of the total land area of Caraga Region. It encompasses ninety one (91) barangays with a total population of 203,873 based on the record the Philippine National Census of 2010.

Table 3. Land Area Coverage and Demographic Profile of CENRO Bislig

Municipality/ City	Land Area (hectares)	No. of Brgys	Population	Household
Bislig City	42,264 or 25.03%,	24	94,535	19,315
Lingig	47,934 or 26.69%,	18	31,485	7,726
Tagbina	40,998 or 24.68%,	25	38,833	7,226
Hinatuan	31,523 or 23.6%,	24	39,842	7,920

Sources: CENRO ENR Profile, 2020

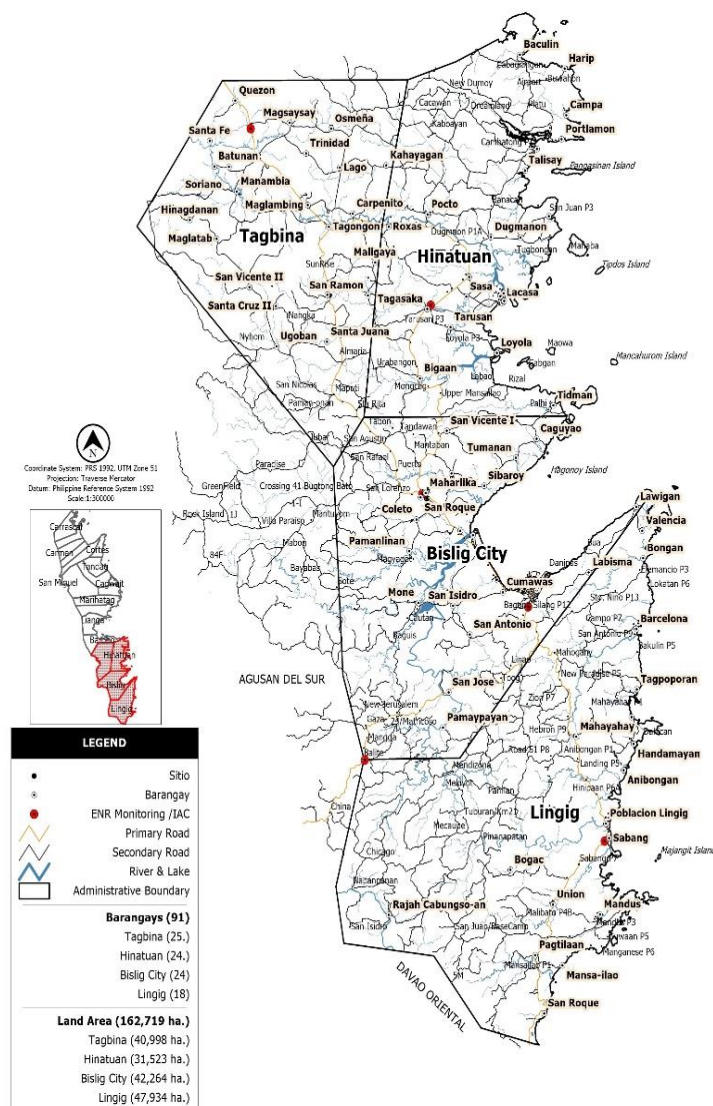


Figure 3. Map Showing the Administrative Jurisdiction of CENRO Bislig

b. Land Classification, Land Cover and Land Use

The total aggregated area of CENRO Bislig is 162, 719 hectares which covers (45.94%) or 74, 757 Alienable and Disposable (A&D) Lands while the remaining (54.06%) or 87,962 hectares Forestland.

Table 4. Land Classification, CENRO Bislig

Municipality/ City	AREA (HAS.)		
	A & D	FORESTLAND	TOTAL
Bislig City	18,985	23,279	42,264
Hinatuan	20, 035	11, 488	31, 523
Lingig	12, 567	35, 367	47, 934
Tagbina	23, 170	17, 828	40, 998
TOTAL	74,757	87,962	162,719

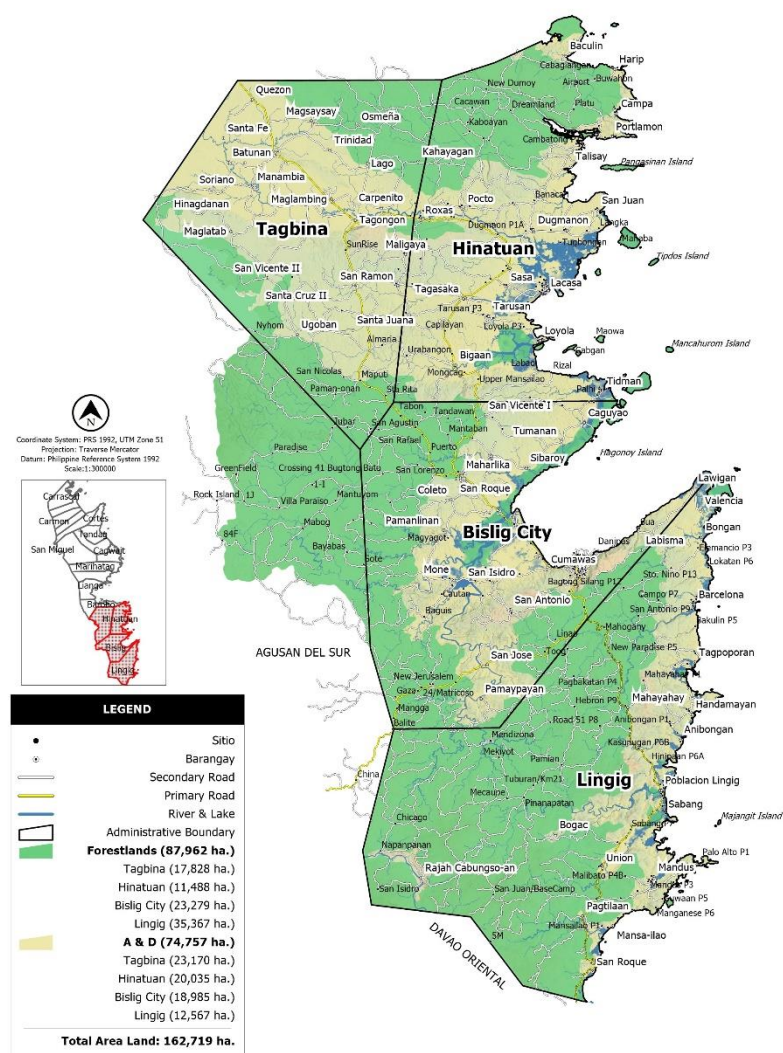


Figure 4. Map Showing the Land Classification - CENRO Bislig

Table 5. Land Cover

LAND COVER	Hectares
Mangrove forest	4,611.49
Open forest	25,156.90
Closed Forest	665.51
Inland water	1,450.27
Fishpond	1,088.86
Built-up area	1,588.39
Other wooded land (grassland, bush/shrubs)	49,611.09
Other land (annual crop, perennial crop, open barren)	78,103.32
TOTAL	162,275.83

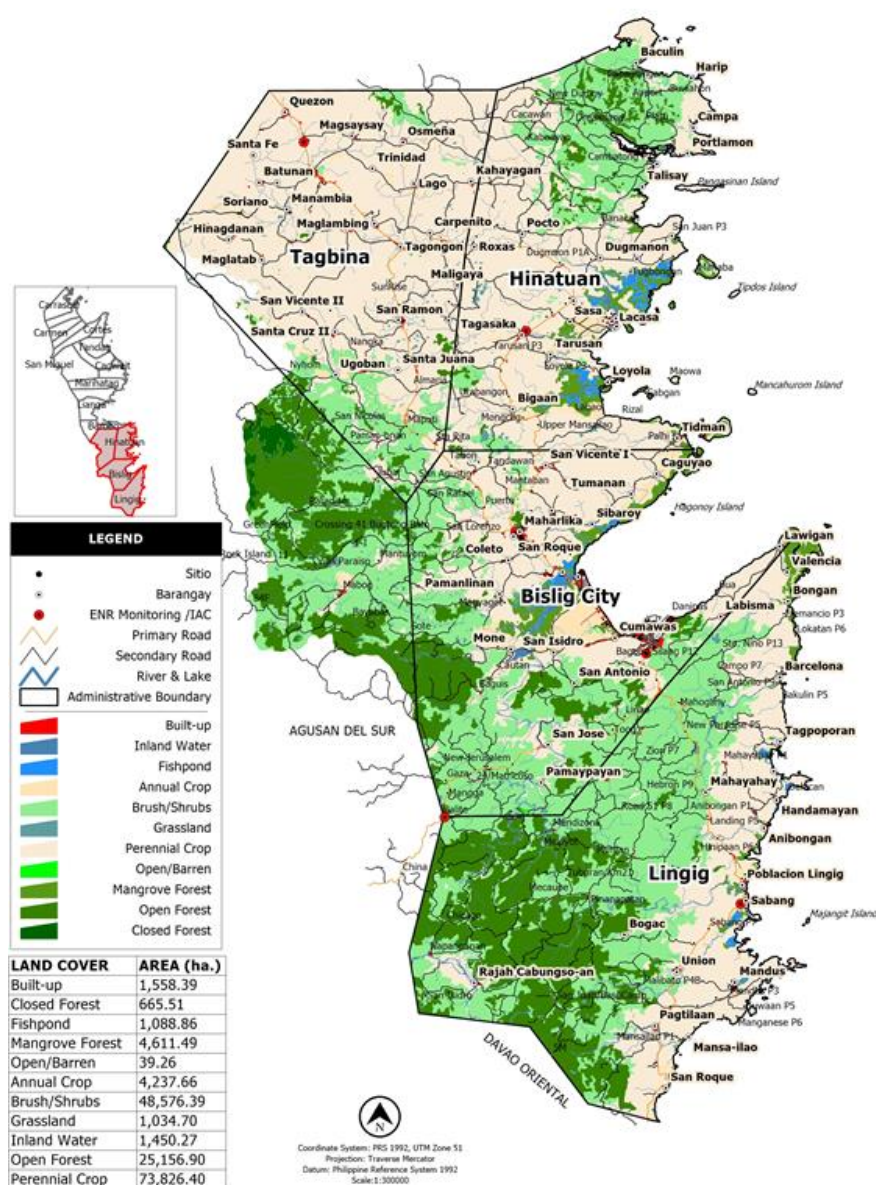


Figure 5. Map Showing Land Cover of CENRO Bislig

The total forestland area of CENRO-Bislig is 87,962 hectares which covers, 56.04% of the total land area of its AOR with the municipality of Lingig having the largest area with 35,367 hectares. It's allocation for production is 81,894 hectares or 93.10% of the total forestland area while the protection forest is 6,068 hectares or 6.90% of the total forestland area. The latter already covered the area of the recently legislated Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL) by virtue of RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038 or the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018, and the proposed Barcelona, Bongan, Lawigan and Valencia (BARBOLAVA) Protected Landscape and Seascape (PLS).

Table 6. Protection and Production Forest, CENRO Bislig

CITY/ MUNICIPALITIES	TOTAL FOREST LAND AREA (HAS.)	TOTAL AREA (HAS)	
		PROTECTION	PRODUCTION
Bislig City	23,279	3,990	19,289
Hinatuan	11,488	424	11,064
Tagbina	17,828	1,485	16,343
Lingig	35,367	169	35,198
TOTAL	87,962	6,068	81,894

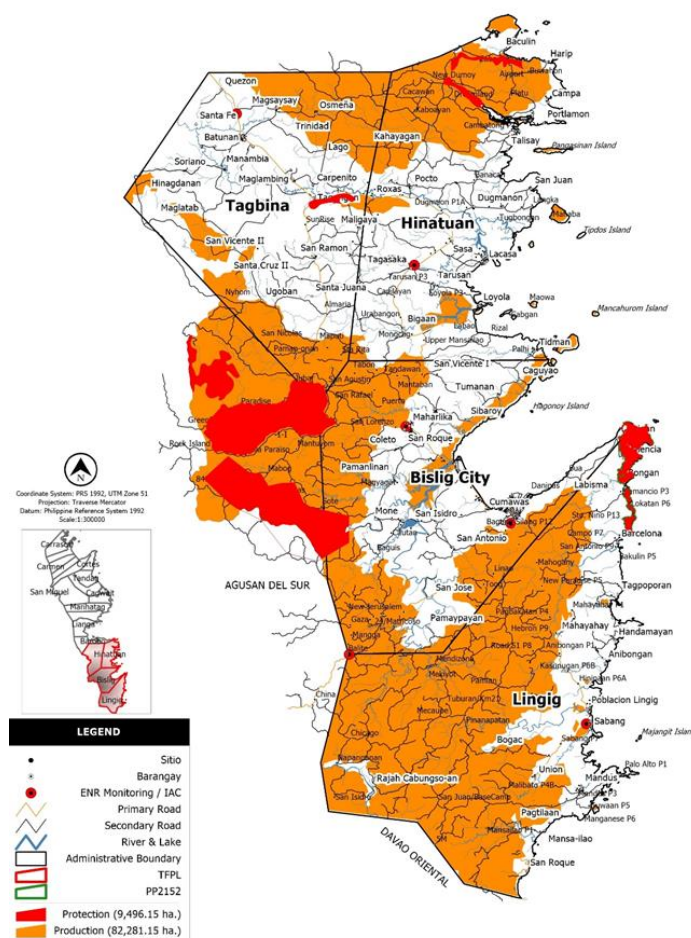


Figure 6. Map Showing the Forest Protection and Production Areas of CENRO Bislig

c. Protected Area, Biodiversity and Ecotourism

CENRO Bislig is home to one of the three (3) legislated protected areas in Caraga Region – the Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL) by virtue of RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038, otherwise known as the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act of 2018. Covering a total area of 43,21.75 hectares, TFPL is shared by two provinces, Surigao del Sur and Agusan del Sur. In Surigao del Sur, it encompasses the City of Bislig with a total area of 539.02 has.

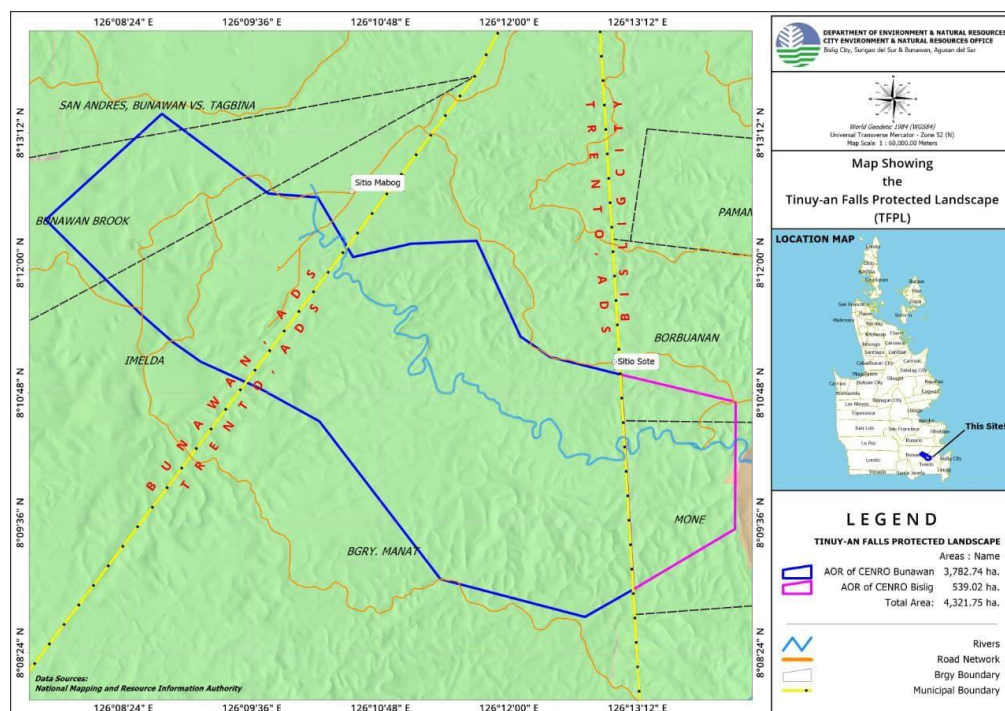


Figure 7. Map Showing Area Covered by the Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL)

TFPL is also the habitat of the critically endangered Philippine Eagle (*Pithecophaga jefferyi*) which presence was first confirmed when a young female was captured in April 2007 at Sitio Sote, Barangay Burbuanan, Bislig City. And just recently, in January 28, 2021, a pair of Philippine Eagle was tracked in a forested area within the TFPL. These sightings established TFPL as a breeding site of this critically endangered bird.¹

There are a total of 144 species of flora recorded TFPL.² Five (5) are planted species and thirty-nine (39) still needs further classification as they are being identified through their local names. Of the one hundred five (105) species identified and categorized, thirty one percent (31%) or thirty-three (32) species

¹ Suitability Assessment of the Philippine Eagle Nesting Territory in Barangay Burbuanan, Bislig City, Surigao del Sur as Philippine Eagle Critical Habitat Under RA 9147. PEF. August 2008.

² Protected Area Suitability Assessment Report for Tinuy-an Watershed. DENR. 2008

belonging to sixteen (16) families are threatened based on DAO 2007-01 and the IUCN List.

As for fauna, a total of 210 species, consisting of birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, freshwater fishes and crustaceans were also recorded.³ Out of these, thirty-four (34) species or 16% are categorized as threatened, including the critically endangered Philippine Eagle.

Another protected area, currently being proposed for inclusion in the ENIPAS, is the BARBOLAVA Protected Landscape and Seascape (PLS).

BARBOLAVA PLS encompasses the coastal barangays of **Barcelona**, **Bongan**, **Lawigan** and **Valencia**, hence the name BARBOLAVA, covering a total area of 753.64 hectares. It is within two (2) political jurisdictions: Municipality of Lingig and Bislig City, all in the Province of Surigao del Sur District II. BARBOLAVA is part of Presidential Proclamation 2152 (Mangrove Swamp Forest Reserves) and thus, is considered an initial component of NIPAS pursuant to Section 5 of DAO 2019-05.

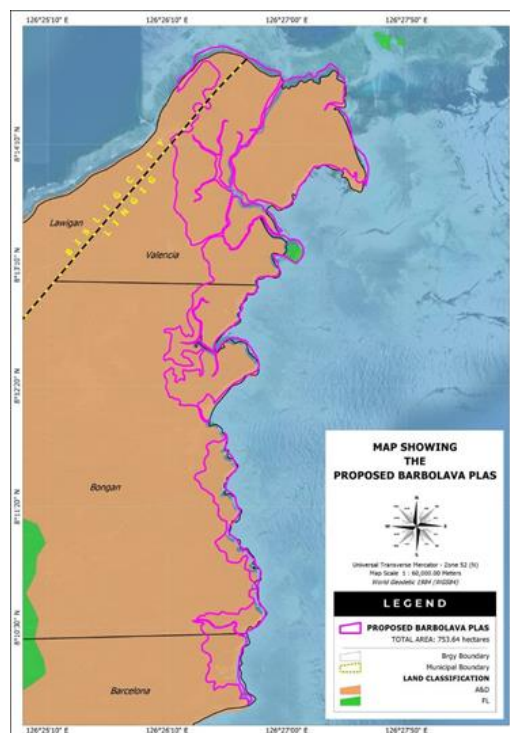


Figure 8. Map Showing Area Covered by the Proposed BARBOLAVA PLS

Table 7 Protected Areas within the AOR of CENRO Bislig

Name of Protected Area	Area Coverage (has)	Area Coverage by Province/	Jurisdiction	Status
Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL)	4,321.75	Surigao del Sur – 539.0 Agusan del Sur – 3,782.74	CENRO Bislig and CENRO Bunawan	Legislated PA by virtue of RA 7586 as amended
BARBOLAVA Protected Landscape and Seascape	753.64	Surigao del Sur	CENRO Bislig	Initial Component of NIPAS
TOTAL AREA	5,075.39			

In terms of caves and wetlands, there are 20 caves 40 inland wetlands inventoried within the AOR of CENRO Bislig as of CY 2021.

³ Ibid.

Ecotourism

Two major and popular ecotourism destinations in Caraga Region are found within the AOR of CENRO Bislig. These are the Tinuy-an Falls in Bislig City and the Enchanted River of Hinatuan, all in the province of Surigao del Sur.

Tinuy-an falls is a part of a complex watercourse system typical of tropical rainforest landscape. It is a cascading, multi-tiered block type waterfall. Water drops from the main watercourse, cascades in multi-layer beds of rock before plunging like a big sheet measuring 22 meters high in a 99 meters wide pool. This is the main feature of the waterfall that resembles the world famous Niagara Falls of Canada. From the first stage down to the last stage, Tinuy-an Falls has a total height of 37 meters and an average width of 66 meters.

Tinuy-an Falls is located within Brgy. Burboanan, Bislig City and is within the Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL).

The Hinatuan's Enchanted River is a deep spring river that flows into the Philippine Sea and the Pacific Ocean. It is famous for its deep blue water and tranquil surrounding which is an ideal haven for excursion and swimming. It is located in Brgy. Talisay, Hinatuan Surigao del Sur and serves as the main ecotourism attraction in the municipality.



Tinuy-an Falls, Bislig City



Enchanted River, Hinatuan

d. Cultural Groups

The two most notable cultural groups within the AOR of CENRO Bislig City are the Manobos and the Mandaya. There are already three (3) Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title (CADT) issued within the AOR of CENRO Bislig. CADT 239 of MATRICOSO, TFPL is actually within the CADT 239 of MATRICOSO, CADT 070 of MMADMC and CADT 210 of MARCADMO. TFPL is within CADT 230, hence is also considered and registered as an Indigenous Community Conservation Area (ICCA) of the Manobo Community. It is home to over 1,500 members of the indigenous Manobo people living in 6 hamlets, namely Baguis, Bayabas, Sote, 84-F Anislag and Silang.⁴ CADT 239 has a total area of 6, 038.90 has.

⁴ Explore Case Studies, Pangasanan, Philippines, www.iccaregistry.org

Table 8. CADT Holders

CADT No.	Holder	Area (has)
239	MATRICOSO	6,038.90
070	MMADMC	15,431
210	MARCADMO	12,648
Total Area		34,117.90

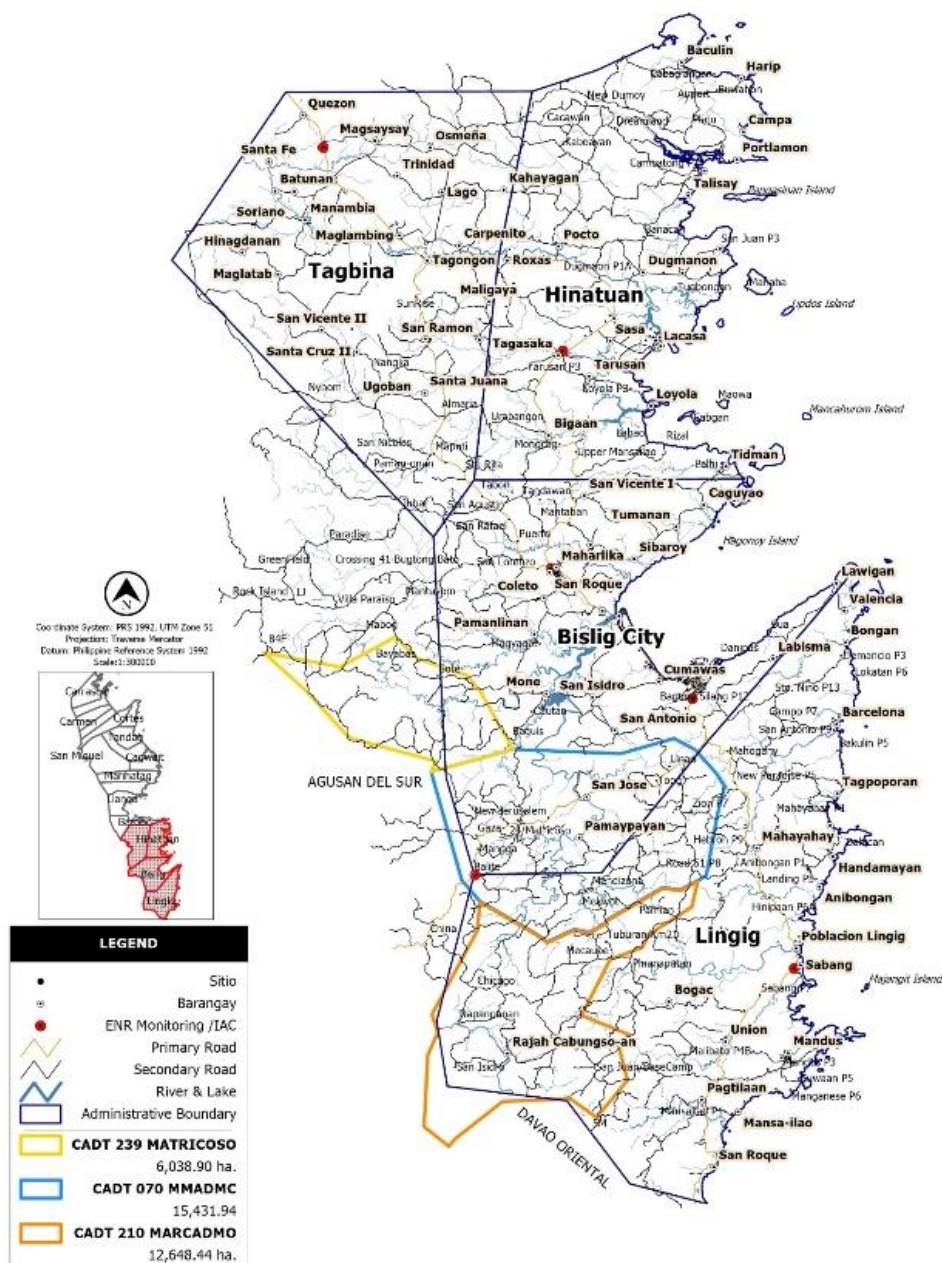


Figure 9. Map Showing the CADT Areas within the AOR of CENRO Bislig

V. TASK DETAILS

My two (2) week field office engagement at CENRO Bislig generally involves document review, observations, site/field visits, participation in field activities, facilitation and consultation, and action referrals:

- On Forestry Matters

1. Review of acted requests for the issuance of tree cutting permits/clearances

I was made to review acted requests for the issuance of tree cutting permits/clearances. The intention was for me to be familiar with and learn the procedures and the supporting documents required to process applications for tree cutting permit/clearance. There were three types of request/application that I was able to review and study. These are request to cut a hazardous tree that is posing danger to lives and properties, request to cut trees that obstructs power lines and request to cut/clear trees to give way for the construction/establishment of residential houses in a proposed barangay site.

Details of document review:

- a. Clearance to cut one (1) Toog tree situated within the private lot of Ms. Lucia Espinosa located at Brgy. Tumanan, Bislig City
 - Request for immediate cutting by the Punong Barangay received on March 5, 2021 attached with Brgy Resolution requesting DENR to cut the hazardous tree and Original Certificate of Title (OCT) of Ms. Lucio Espinosa;
 - Under oath report on the inspection/verification of subject tree conducted by the team leader and members of the Scaling Forest Products Monitoring Station on March 5, 2021 submitted to OIC CENR Officer with recommendation to cut the tree, on March 16, 2021;
 - Memorandum of CENRO Bislig dated April 15, 2021 endorsing the inspection/verification report and concurring with the recommendation of the team to DENR Regional Office through PENRO-Surigao del Sur for information and record released on April 15, 2021;
 - Memorandum of the RED to the PENRO attention CENRO Bislig dated May 27, 2021, received on August 11, 2021, granting clearance to the said cutting of hazardous tree subject to the condition that prior cutting, concerned CENRO and the proponent shall coordinate with the Forest, Wetlands, Research, Development and Extension Center (FWRDEC) for final assessment of the tree;
 - Memorandum from The Head of FWRDEC to CENRO Bislig dated August 18, 2021 submitting the health assessment report of the Toog tree (no stamped received)

- Letter to City Mayor of Bislig from CENRO Bislig dated August 27, 2021 informing the former of the clearance granted for the cutting of the tree and the schedule of cutting;
 - Memorandum report to the CENRO from team who coordinated for the conduct of the final health assessment with FWRDEC dated September 3, 2021 with recommendations to cut the tree, inform the City LGU and to turn-over the logs for proper disposition.
- b. Cutting of trees that obstructs power lines
- Received letter request to cut down trees that is within the Power Corridor Line of the SURSECO electric distribution from President-Board of Director on July 14, 2021
 - Inspection/Verification Report of subject trees submitted to CENRO received on July 19, 2021 with recommendation for the proponent to submit “Notice for the trimming/pruning/cutting of tall growing plants” in accordance with Republic Act 11361 or the Anti-Obstruction of Power Lines Act; whenever possible, planted and natural grown trees shall only be pruned; logs derived shall be turned-over to the CENRO for proper disposition; proponent to conduct tree planting activity to replace the affected trees with at least 100 seedlings per naturally-grown tree preferably of indigenous species and 50 seedlings per planted species in support to ENGP; conduct Communication Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) activities to educate the community about RA 11361. Attachments include: Request Letter dated July 14, 2021, tally sheet, stand stock table, sketch map, geotagged photos.
 - Letter to SURSECO from CENRO dated July 28, 2021, informing of the result of the inspection/verification and requesting the proponent to furnish the office of the “Notice for the trimming/pruning/ cutting of tall growing plants” in accordance with Republic Act 11361.
 - Notice for the trimming/pruning/ cutting of tall growing plants received by the office of July 29, 2021.
 - Per action routing slip, CENRO instructed to monitor/supervise cutting or pruning operation of SURSECO
- c. Cutting of thirty (34) mahogany species within a proposed barangay site
- Letter from Punong Barangay of Sta. Cruz, Bislig City, attached with a Brgy. Certification, request for a cutting permit to cut down 34 planted Mahogany trees determined to be hazardous as the location of said trees is to be diverted into residential lots, received on September 7, 2021;
 - Deputy CENRO’s instruction, released on same day to the Chief, MES was to send personnel to conduct inventory and submit report;
 - Brgy. Resolution requesting the DENR Office of Bislig City to confer the 32 mahogany tree planted of cutting permit to cutdown within a barangay site known as communal garden now divert to residential

lot situated at P3 Ta. Cruz, Bislig City, Surigao del Sur received on September 22, 2021, 3:20 pm

- CENRO's instruction to the Deputy, released on same day was to reply informing concerned BLGU that level of authority to issue such cutting permit is vested with the DENR Regional Executive Director (RED) & that their request will be forwarded to the Regional Office thru channel for the issuance of cutting permit;
- Under oath report from the team conducting site inspection and inventory received on September 22, 2021 at 1:00 pm with recommendation for BLGU to submit Brgy. Resolution to the office pertaining to the proposed Brgy. Site highlighting the cutting of 34 mahogany trees to have space in the establishment of the house of 22 families; advise to apply appropriate permit to utilize the 34 mahogany trees; and if ever the permit is granted, the Brgy Council shall conduct tree planting activity in replacement of the cut mahogany trees.
- Memo from CENRO for the RED forwarding the result of the inspection/verification conducted and concurring with and recommending for the granting of the request of the Brgy. subject to DENR existing rules and regulations. Attachments include: Inspection Report, Tally Sheets, geotagged photos, letter request from the Punong Barangay, Brgy. Certification, Pictorials, Copy of Brgy Resolution

2. Attend and observe the conduct of administrative adjudication proceedings and clarificatory hearing on apprehended/seized illegal forest products, conveyances, tools and equipment

I was able to attend and observe three (3) administrative adjudication proceedings and one (1) clarificatory hearing for apprehended/seized illegal forest products, conveyances, tools and equipment. One (1) administrative adjudication proceeding and (1) clarificatory hearing were presided by the CENRO and the rest were presided by the Deputy CENRO. All proceedings/hearings were attended by the respondents or persons accused/complained, the apprehending officers and members of the Hearing Committee which composition include the Chiefs of the Monitoring and Enforcement Section (MES) and the Conservation and Development Section (CDS). Concerned Punong Barangay/s were also able to participate in two (2) of the conducted proceedings/hearings.

Details:

- 2nd administrative adjudication proceeding on the apprehension of undocumented illegal forest products and one (1) unit Isuzi Elf Truck at Post 12, Barangay Tabon, Bislig City, jointly conducted by DENR CENRO Bislig and PNP Bislig on June 23, 2021. The hearing was presided by CENRO Racho and attended by the respondent, PNP-Bislig,

Brgy Captain of Brgy Tabon, Chief, Monitoring and Enforcement Section (MES) and members of the apprehending team. The purpose of the hearing was to determine whether there is substantial supporting documents or evidence that would warrant the temporary release of the conveyance to the alleged owner who claimed to having no direct or indirect involvement on the violation allegedly committed by a certain individual who used his elf truck. The hearing had already resolved to confiscate the illegal forest products in favor of the government but as to the temporary release of the seized conveyance to the owner, the committee requested more evidence or supporting documents that indeed the owner has no involvement in the crime prior the submission of its recommendation for temporary release to the DENR Regional Office.

- Clarificatory hearing on the alleged illegal utilization of natural grown trees affected by DPWH-Road widening project at P-3, San Isidro, Bislig City, presided by CENRO Racho. The activity was participated by the person complained, representative of DPWH Regional Office, representative from J.M Luciano Cons. Inc., Chief, MES and concerned personnel who conducted the investigation. The Contractor of the said DPWH project admitted to have forgotten to secure the necessary cutting permit per the advise of DPWH. Knowing that they were not able to secure the permit, they left the felled trees where they were cut. The person complained also admitted that he sawn the felled tree into lumber to be used for house construction because it was just left there to rot. The committee resolved to just issue a temporary custodial receipt to the person complained and directed the DPWH through the Contractor to facilitate the hauling and turn-over to the CENRO Office of all trees cut including those at the custody of the person complained.
- 1st administrative adjudication proceedings on the apprehension of tooo lumber loaded on one (1) unit RUSI Chariot motorcycle and one (1) unit EURO motorcycle at Kapilayan II, Brgy. Tagasaka, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur on August 24, 2021, jointly conducted by CENRO Bislig, and 48th IB Philippines Army presided by DMO III, Mamerto Valbares, the Deputy and OIC CENRO, owner of the conveyances, apprehending officers, Section Chief of MES, EMS II Vidal Mila, Jr and Section Chief of CDS, DMO III Sergio Dingding. The hearing resolved to confiscate the apprehended illegal forest products in favor of the government and to conduct another round of administrative adjudication proceeding inviting the alleged owner of the illegal forest products and the driver of the chariot as implicated by the sister-in law of the owner of the chariot who appeared before the hearing.
- 1st administrative adjudication proceeding on the apprehension of Lauan lumber loaded on one (1) unit Red Motoposh motorcycle, one (1) unit RUSI motorcycle, and one (1) unit Honda XRM motorcycle at Purok 3, Bitoon, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur, jointly conducted by CENRO Bislig and PNP Hinatuan, presided by DMO III, Mamerto Valbares, the Deputy and OIC CENRO, concerned respondents, apprehending officers, Section Chief of MES, EMS II Vidal Mila, Jr and Section Chief of CDS, DMO

III Sergio Dingding. The owner of the apprehended illegal forest products told the hearing committee that he asked permission to cut trees from the concerned Barangay Captain which the latter consented. The hearing officer explained that what they did was a violation of the law. The barangay captain has no authority to give permission to cut trees. It is only the DENR which has the vested authority to issue permit to cut trees. The hearing committee resolved to confiscate the illegal forest products in favor of the government, file appropriate charges and to hold another round of administrative adjudication proceeding inviting the concerned Punong Barangay implicated by the owner of the apprehended/seized illegal forest products.

3. Visit monitoring stations depository shed for confiscated products and conveyances of CENRO Bislig City

Visited two (2) out of the six (6) monitoring stations of CENRO Bislig: the Scaling Monitoring Station located at Brgy San Roque, Bislig City and the Hinatuan Monitoring Station, located at Tagasaka, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur. CENRO Racho showed me the established mini-nurseries of both stations. This initiative was in compliance to his memo-instruction to all monitoring stations to establish and maintain a mini-nursery in their respective stations in order to help the DENR's national greening program and promote urban forestry within his AOR. A newly constructed depository area/shed can also be seen in the Scaling Monitoring Station which is also an initiative of the assigned field officers in said station.

We also visited the CENRO depository shed for apprehended/seized and confiscated illegal forest products and conveyances located at the Forest and Wetland Research, Development and Extension Center (FWRDEC) at Brgy. San Roque, Bislig City.

4. Participate in ENGP enhancement planting and bamboo tree planting activities.

The enhancement planting within a graduated NGP site was conducted on a Saturday. The activity was led by the CENRO and participated by ENGP staff and members of a people's organization. A total of 500 indigenous trees were planted along the riverbanks of So. Bincongan, Brgy. Bigaan, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur. The seedlings used in the activity were sourced from the mini-nursery of the Hinatuan Monitoring Station and from FWRDEC.

Aside from the tree planting activity, ENGP staff also took the opportunity to collect wildlings and seeds in the site for seedling production supporting urban forestry program. After the activity, the group had a short relaxation and bonding activity on a nearby lot while enjoying a fresh buko lamaw courtesy of the CENRO.

The following day, Sunday, together with staff of the City Economic Enterprise and Development Office (CEEDO) of LGU Bislig City and manager of the Tinuy-an Falls, we went to Tinuy-an Falls located in Brgy. Burboanan, Bislig City to plant bamboos. CENRO Racho purposely initiated the activity for me to be able to experience planting bamboos. A total of 7 hills of varying species were planted on the site. These include yellow kiling, iron bamboo, variegated bamboo and yellow buho. During said planting activity, my CENRO Host-Mentor bared his vision of establishing a bambusetum in Tinuy-an Falls.

5. Action referrals

When I acted as the interim CENRO, all documents for actions, except for vouchers, DTRs, and travel orders were referred to me first. My task was to evaluate and determine who to route/refer the document with my initial instruction and then the CENRO will review what I wrote in the routing slip and affix his initial if it is in order. Majority of the forestry related documents that I evaluated and referred to for actions were on request for inspection and validation of ENGP accomplishments on maintenance and protection; extension of the expired self-monitoring form and registration of chainsaw;

- On Biodiversity Matters

1. Review of accomplishment reports, activity designs and draft correspondence for approval and signature of the CENRO

The first task given to me was the review of the 3rd Quarter Accomplishment Report of the Protected Area Biodiversity and Ecotourism Unit (PABEU) and 3rd Quarter Report of Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscapes (TFPL) which are due for signature/approval of the CENRO. Other documents referred to me for review include draft activity/meeting design in the conduct of Free and Prior Informed (FPIC) consultation meeting for TFPL, and draft special order creating the team who will conduct boundary delineation of the proposed Barcelona, Bongan, Lawigan and Valencia (BARBOLAVA) Protected Landscapes and Seascapes (PLS)

Comments/Observations on the reviewed reports:

- The 3rd quarter PABEU accomplishment report prepared was merely a consolidation of all assessment and activity reports submitted to the DENR Regional Office for the quarter. There was no narrative report and the physical and financial reports were also not attached.
- Not duly filled-up wetland information sheet and cave assessment reports;

2. Attend and assist in the conduct of protected area management related activities/event

Attended the Orientation of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas (ENIPAS) Act or RA 7586 as amended and Creation of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) for the Proposed BARBOLAVA PLS at Dungaw Farm Resort, Barangay Tabon, Bislig City together with CENRO Racho and OIC PENRO Victor Sabornido of PENRO Surigao del Sur. The activity was facilitated by CENRO Bislig City through the Protected Areas, Biodiversity and Ecotourism Unit (PABEU) of the Conservation and Development Section (CDS) headed by its Chief, For. Sergio M. Dingding. It was conducted via blended mode of facilitation/meeting – face to face and via zoom for those unable to be physically present in the venue. Participating face to face were representative of the Honorable Congressman of the 2nd District, Province of Surigao Del Sur, representative of the Mayor of Bislig City, and Barangay LGU (BLGU) officials of Brgy. Lawigan of Bislig City and Brgys. Barcelona, Bongan and Valencia of the Municipality of Lingig. Participating via zoom were DENR Caraga Regional Executive Director (RED) Nonito M. Tamayo, representatives from the PNP, DOST and DA, and representative from the academe. Also in attendance and acting as resource persons were the team from the DENR Regional Office headed by the Chief of the Conservation and Development Division (CDD), Nilda Ebron.

I provided assistance, particularly in finalizing the flow of the program for the creation of the PAMB based on our experience when we created three (3) PAMBs in the province of Dinagat Islands last January, 2020. I also shared my views and opinion with the team from the DENR Regional Office, who at that time was mainly facilitating the activity for CENRO Bislig City, on the issue raised with regards to possibly identifying other management instrument for BARBOLAVA instead of having it legislated as protected area under ENIPAS. Since it is provided in the law, the PAMB should be created/organized first after which they can further discuss the issue raised on whether to pursue the inclusion of BARBOLAVA PLS in the NIPAS or consider other mode of management. Apart from having the area declared as protected area under ENIPAS, there are actually other options. It can be designated as critical habitat pursuant to RA 9147 of the Wildlife Act, which approval is only the DENR Secretary or it can also be managed by the LGU as a local conservation area (LCA). However, to help the PAMB decide which one to pursue, there should be a presentation and discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of these different management instruments for BARBOLAVA. The public, particularly the affected communities should also be consulted regarding this matter.

Comments/Observations on the conduct of the activity:

- Advance team was sent to prepare the venue;
- Technical issues were encountered as the activity was held both face to face and via zoom;
- Limited participation by those attending via zoom;

- A lone issue/concern was raised but was not addressed in the forum due to time limitations.

- On Lands Matters

1. Review of issued instructions and acted requests on land matters

For my information, guidance and reference, I was given several documents to review/study such as acted requests on the issuance of survey authority and certification of lot for taxation purposes and certification for land status. CENRO Racho also showed me his instruction for an endorsement from the Presidential Complaint Center re: letter complaint on the issuance of land title for certain group of individuals over a parcel of land situated in Brgy. Bitoon, Hinatuan, Surigao del Sur. He emphasized to really read through the documents and analyze what action is required from the office in order to give proper and right instruction. As to this case, his specific instruction was to create a team to conduct field investigation on the matter and submit complete staff work (CSW) with the issue “whether or not the subject land duly issued with title in favor of a certain groups of individual is within timberland (inalienable land) and is subject to cancellation”. He further explained that in the preparation of a complete staff work (CSW) it is important to properly define the problem. This is also to guide the field investigator on the data and information that they need to gather in order to provide sound recommendation and options that will aid decision-making.

Document Review on the issuance of survey authority:

- Duly accomplished letter-request form from land owner requesting for survey authority and authorizing a certain private geodetic engineer (GE) to conduct the survey and duly attached with Brgy. Certification certifying that the applicant is the actual occupant and possessor of said lot, Deeds of Sale, Affidavit of Non-Improvement, received on August 12, 2021, 3:48
- Payment of field inspection deposit in the amount of Php200.00
- Memorandum from the CENRO to DPLI dated August 12, 2021, 4:41 to conduct inspection/verification;
- Under oath pre-survey report submitted to CENRO by the assigned DPLI dated August 13, 2021, 11:11pm, recommending the issuance of Survey Authority to the private GE
- Signed Survey Authority with control number issued and released on August 13, 2021, 1:53 pm

Observation:

- The issuance of Survey Authority is classified as a complex to highly technical type of transaction per the DENR’s Citizens Charter. However, the prescribed processing time is only 3 days, 4 hours and 5 mins. RA 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business Act, prescribes a maximum

processing time of 7 days for complex transaction and 20 days for highly technical transaction.

2. Action Referrals

Majority of the land related documents that I evaluated and referred to for actions were on request for certification on lot for taxation purposes, land status and survey authority.

- On Environment Matters

1. Attendance to a Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting called by LGU Bislig to discuss the proposal of putting-up a Waste-to-Energy (WtE) facility in the city.

Said TWG meeting was presided by the City Environment and Natural Resources Officer and attended by representatives from the Office of the Mayor, City Engineering Office, City Health Office, City Planning and Development Office, and a member of the Sangguniang Panglungsod. The TWG deliberated on the proposal of a certain group – the Green Global Concept, to put up a WtE facility in Bislig City. Majority in the group expressed apprehension on the practicability and sustainability of said project, as it is assumed to involve millions of pesos for its establishment and operation, not to mention the possible health hazard it will pose due to its emission. The group, however, came into agreement for DENR EMB to do further study/ research on WtE. Other matters discussed is the proposed Sanitary Land Fill (SLF) of the city which current location is within a CADT area. The LGU expressed frustration on securing the necessary permit/clearance because of the difficult process of complying the Free and Prior Informed Consent (FPIC). They anticipated that dealing with the Indigenous People (IP) would be a perennial problem and hence proposed to find another area for their SLF, which should be outside CADT. CENRO Racho committed to extend the necessary assistance, particularly in projecting the new area in a map to make sure that it is outside any CADT area.

- On Leadership/Managerial Matters

1. Facilitate meeting and consultation with concerned section/unit to discuss specific concerns

Following the review of the 3rd quarter accomplishment report of the Protected Areas, Biodiversity and Ecotourism Unit (PABEU) and the 3rd quarter report of the Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscape and Seascape

(TFPL), I met with the concerned unit, with the permission of the CENRO, to verify information, discuss my comments and observations, and provide inputs and guidance in preparing accomplishment and activity reports.

I did the same with the Monitoring and Enforcement Section (MES) on the first day when I acted as Interim CENRO. I requested for the meeting purposely to initiate discussion, for me to better understand the activities and operations of the enforcement section since my exposure and experience is on protected area and biodiversity conservation. It is also to clarify some concerns that I encountered as I read through the various documents and case folders acted by the office. And lastly, gather issues and problems of the concerned personnel in the performance of their duties/functions and solicit suggestions or recommendations to address such issues and problems.

Below are summary of issues tackled during the meeting including action taken and/or recommendation:

Issues/Concerns and Discussions	Action Taken/ Recommendations
<p><i>Slow disposition of apprehended/seized forest products and conveyances</i></p> <p>In a recent document provided to me, I noticed that the administrative adjudication proceedings on the apprehended/seized kandiis lumber reach the 4th hearing. I was made to understand that there are really complicated cases that they need to exhaust all avenues to hear all sides, especially if there are new individuals implicated in the case. This is also an isolated case since most of their cases subjected to adjudication proceedings were resolved in the 1st or 2nd hearing.</p> <p>Usually, delays in the disposition is attributed to delayed issuance of Regional Confiscated Order and Order of Finality. This, I also noticed in the list of issuances of RCO and Order of Finality where some had 3 weeks to as long as 4 months gap from the date of issuance of RCO and the date of issuance of the Order of Finality. Delayed issuance of RCO and Order of Finality could also be attributed to the inability of the Regional Office to promptly act on requests for action as they are catering all CENROs and PENROs.</p>	<p>The CENRO, in order to fast track resolution of cases, regularly conducts administrative adjudication proceedings twice a week (every Tuesday and Thursday) taking on 6-8 cases per week.</p> <p>As for the issue on the delayed issuance of RCO and Order of Finality from the DENR Regional Office, recommendation is for DENR RO to assign focal persons per PENRO or cluster of CENROs to act on cases submitted for the prompt issuance of RCO and Order of Finality.</p>

Issues/Concerns and Discussions	Action Taken/ Recommendations
<p><i>No available vehicle to haul/transport apprehended illegal forest products</i></p>	<p>Anti-illegal logging operations were conducted in close coordination with the Delta Coy of the 48th IB. Most of the time, the army has provided the necessary support, particularly in the transport of apprehended illegal forest products.</p> <p>The group however recommended that the office be provided its own vehicle primarily intended to be use for anti-illegal logging operations particularly in the hauling/transport of apprehended illegal forest products, preferably truck with boom capable of loading logs.</p>
<p><i>Logistic support is wanting particularly in the conduct of anti-illegal logging operations</i></p> <p>Logistic support include gasoline and payment for hauling and transportation of apprehended illegal forest products, conveyances, tools and equipment. The group wanted to have ready cash whenever they will embark on anti-illegal logging operations.</p> <p>It was learned during the discussion that there is a revolving fund maintained which can be used for such operations. However, disbursement is regulated. Field officers involved in the operations need to be sure that information received are credible since there are cases that funds were already disbursed and provided for a certain operation but then there was no apprehension made</p>	<p>The CENRO has already ordered the bulk procurement of gasoline/fuel from a major supplier which the office can use or withdraw anytime to be used in various field activities/operations of the office.</p> <p>As to other expenses necessary, especially in the hauling and transport of apprehended illegal forest products and conveyances, the CENRO reminded the group that there is a budget allocated for the purpose and that they can actually process a cash advance. They just need to prepare and submit the necessary supporting documents such as activity design and Special Order.</p>

Issues/Concerns and Discussions	Action Taken/ Recommendations
<p><i>No new gadgets issued for the conduct of Lawin patrolling</i></p> <p>Forest Rangers/Lawin patrollers disclosed that out of the 26 issued mobile phones intended for Lawin, only 1 remained to be functional. Some already used their personal mobile phones while others wait for the availability of the 1 functional issued phone before they can conduct Lawin patrolling</p>	<p>Already informed the DENR Regional Office about the lack of gadgets for the use of Lawin and also provided the required specification of the gadget to be procured.</p>
<p><i>Information gathered during Lawin patrolling seem to not reflect actual situation, particularly on the observed/detected threats which are usually solid waste management issues/ problems.</i></p> <p>The numerous apprehensions made by the CENRO is an indication of the presence of illegal logging activities within its AOR. However, observed threats during Lawin patrolling are usually on solid waste management and do not include or reflect threats on illegal logging.</p> <p>Lawin patrollers admitted that they only include threats that can be immediately addressed.</p>	<p>CENRO instructed the preparation and strict implementation of a forest protection/patrol plan.</p> <p>I also informed and reminded the group that result of patrolling activities in protected areas, like the Tinuy-Falls Protected Landscape (TFPL) and the proposed BARBOLAVA PLS, should be presented to the respective Protected Area Management Boards (PAMBs) for their information and action.</p>
<p><i>Death threats received</i></p> <p>Some of the field/forest protection officers disclosed of receiving death threats because of their anti-illegal logging operations. In fact, CENRO Bislig has lost a few men due to enforcement related activities.</p>	<p>Fast track the approval of the law that will create the Environmental Protection and Enforcement Bureau (EPEB). Meantime, DENR RO to provide assistance in processing the required licenses/permits of their personally purchased firearms.</p>

CENRO Racho, being a newly designated CENRO of Bislig City also revealed that there are changes he wants to institute in the office especially in the management and control of funds, assignment of personnel and other office regulations and practices. He couldn't implement these changes at

once as he needs to be wary of possible negative reactions especially if these changes will affect practices that have already become a norm or culture in the office.

2. Provide input and guidance on the preparation for the conduct of ENIPAS Orientation and PAMB Organizational Meeting for the proposed BARBOLAVA PLS

I was consulted by the Chief of the PABEU and the staff in-charge for inputs and comments, particularly on the prepared program for the ENIPAS Orientation cum PAMB Creation scheduled to be held in three (3) days. I shared with them our experience in conducting similar activity in the province of Dinagat Islands where we were able to create three (3) PAMBs in one setting. I provided them presentation materials including sample program for their information and guidance.

3. Preside over meeting

I filled-in for the CENRO to preside over a meeting with a youth organization named – Propelling Our Inherited Nation Through Our Youth (POINTY) Inc. which he invited over but was unable to meet because he was not feeling well that time. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss how this group of young people can be tapped to assist the government, particularly DENR in promoting the department's various environmental programs and advocacies. CENRO Racho was actually hoping to engage this group and form possible partnership interventions such as adoption of graduated NGP sites or other environmental interventions of their choice like riverbank rehabilitation through the establishment of bamboos, etc. However, the president of the POINTY Bislig City Chapter, explained that they are youth volunteers and don't have the means and resources to adopt and managed government programs. Instead they are very much willing to be tapped in DENR activities such as tree planting and coastal clean-up. They also wished to be oriented about DENR programs as they can be a real asset in spreading environmental awareness as they usually do information campaign in far-flung areas.

The meeting ended with the office extending appreciation and commendation to this group of young people who came out of their way to reach out and be willing partners in our environmental advocacies. The office committed to keep in touch with them and to involve and engage them in the various environmental activities of the office.

4. Presentation of my observations including suggestions and recommendations to improve the performance of CENRO Bislig

During the wrap and assessment on the last day of my FOE attended by all key personnel, I presented an initial report of my 12 days engagement in CENRO Bislig, particularly highlighting positive observations including suggestions and recommendation to improve office performance (*presentation material attached as appendix*). I also took the opportunity to briefly discuss with them specific provisions of RA 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business Act, particularly on the prescribed maximum processing time which appear to be in discord with the Citizen's Charter. I also briefly discussed the Environmental Management System (EMS) and challenge the CENRO to have their office ISO certified on EMS.

VI. INSIGHTS DURING FOE IN TERMS OF:

1. Knowledge

- There are several policies governing the cutting of trees depending on the situation and the purpose for removing them, hence thorough evaluation and field verification of all tree cutting requests/application should be conducted. As to removing trees that pose danger to lives and properties, while not specifically provided in the Citizens Charter as part of the procedure in the conduct of field inspection, a tree health assessment must always be sought from ERDB through their Centers, in this case, the Forest and Wetland Research, Development and Extension Center (FWRDEC) in Bislig City. Per our Citizen's Charter, prescribed processing time for this type of transaction is 20 days. But there are cases, such as in CENRO Bislig where it took about 5 months before the tree was felled. A clearance to cut was issued by the DENR Regional Executive Director (RED) Office but with a condition to conduct first a tree health assessment and so another field inspection was again conducted together with representative from the FWRDEC. As much as possible actions on this type of request should be fast as we are talking about trees that pose hazard to lives and properties. Issuance of clearance may also be delegated to the CENRO.
- There seems to be a discord between what is provided and prescribed in the DENR SPICS/Citizen Charter and that of RA 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business Act. The processing time prescribed for some of the frontline services under the DENR SPICS/Citizen Charter is not realistic. With the stringent implementation of the SPICS/Citizens Charter, and in an effort to ensure a passing rating during evaluation, field offices are compelled to only submit actions or accomplishments that are compliant with the SPICS. I believe there's a need to assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the implementation of the DENR's Citizens Charter. We may have compliance reports that are not real and reflective of the actual situation in the field.

- Administrative adjudication proceeding or clarificatory hearing are also venues to inform and educate BLGUs, respondents and accused on ENR laws and regulations, particularly governing the utilization of resources.

2. Skills

- The need to sometimes take calculated risks in order to resolve issues as in the case of the alleged illegal utilization of natural grown trees affected by DPWH-Road widening project where the committee resolved to just issue a temporary custodial receipt to the person-complained and directed the DPWH through the Contractor to facilitate the hauling and turn-over to the CENRO Office all trees cut including those at the custody of the person complained.
- The need to exercise diligence and procedural fairness in conducting administrative adjudication proceeding or clarificatory hearing, allowing all parties to express their sides and also to solicit impartial views and opinions from other participants. Knowledge on ENR laws is also important to properly arrive at a decision not inconsistent with existing policies, rules and regulations.
- The need to provide clear instructions/guidance to staff/personnel in order for them to properly execute their tasks.
- The need to exercise prudence particularly in signing or approving documents.
- This pandemic has greatly changed the landscape of how we conduct and facilitate our meetings and activities. As we continue to perform and deliver our mandates, it is imperative for us to adapt to this “new normal”. In doing so, we need to develop and enhance our knowledge and skills in using the digital platform; study and learn how to organize and run effective virtual or blended mode of meetings/activities; and invest in equipment that will help facilitate a smooth and productive blended or online engagement.
- Network and partnerships are strategic tools for us to be able to successfully initiate actions advantageous to our office/department such as the case of the possible transfer of ownership of confiscated conveyances to CENRO which was made possible with the help of the Highway Patrol Group (HPG) and the Land Transportation Office.
- *Closely coordinating with PNP and the Philippine Army in the conduct of anti-illegal logging operations.* We cannot overemphasize the important role and significant contribution of the Philippine National Police and the Philippine Army in upholding environmental conservation and forest protection within the AOR of CENRO Bislig, particularly in providing armed and logistical support in every anti-illegal logging operations.
- Initiating and instituting changes in an organization takes a process. It starts with a full awareness and assessment of the current situation to include norms, behavior and culture of the organization. And this is often achieved through observation as well as constant and open communication with and among the staff and personnel. It also includes being aware of the desires, aspirations and motivations of every single member of the organization. Instituting changes is no easy task and if not properly handled could result to resistance.
- *Delegating and assigning responsibilities.* This is usually done to ensure that

all aspects of the event are well covered and someone is responsible for ensuring proper execution of assigned task/ function. Effective delegation and assignments present an opportunity for members of the team to learn, develop and/or hone skills in planning, preparing and running effective meetings.

3. Values

- The job of a CENRO is very challenging. From acting on all documents on the desk, to reviewing reports and ensuring that they are aligned with the standards set, to making sure that all accomplishments are on track, and all other intervening activities are implemented well – I think for a CENRO to be able to do all these, he needs to really have good people behind him, people that he can trust, are motivated, and are willing to learn and further their skills/ competencies to achieve organizational goals and objectives
- A tree planting activity and everything on the side can actually promote team building. The active participation and support of the CENR Officer in this kind of field activity, even on a weekend, could boost the morale and foster good working relationship with his subordinates. Team building activities are designed to create and build strong teams in an organization. It encourages communication, collaboration, and teamwork, bringing on highly motivated and more engaged employees which is beneficial to the organization.
- In implementing our mandate, we are often challenged by limited, if not lack of financial resources. This reality could either dampen our spirit and motivation to work and perform our tasks and responsibilities properly, or present an opportunity for us to rise above the occasion and initiate activities on our own that would greatly contribute to the achievement of our agency's vision.
- *Displaying a culture that is output-based, rather than attendance-based – particularly relating to employees rendering overtime.* It has been observed that there are personnel who don't mind staying longer in the office beyond office hours in order to complete whatever task they are doing. This is actually beneficial to the office in terms of increasing level of productivity. However, this practice can be both good and bad. Good in the sense that it benefits the organization when employees strive to complete their tasks for the day, regardless of whether or not they have already stayed longer than what is required by law. Bad, as this affects work-life balance and can also be interpreted as being inefficient. Proper assessment should be undertaken whether or not allowing employees to render overtime is actually beneficial in terms of work-life balance and employees ability to be both effective and efficient, or to the office in general, considering that overtime also entail additional operational cost (e.g use of electricity).
- Tap on young peoples' passion and eagerness in promoting environmental protection and conservation and to fully maximize their engagement as active partners of the CENRO in the implementation of its various programs and projects, especially during this time of pandemic

- We can do more and achieve more than just plant trees during a tree planting activity. A simple tree planting activity can address multiple objectives. Apart from its environmental benefits, tree planting brings people together, promotes camaraderie, allows people to build strong connection with nature, reduces stress and promotes outdoor activities, among others. Indeed, a tree planting activity is a learning experience for all who takes part in it.
- *Having an open communication.* This is best exemplified by being approachable. The CENRO himself is easy to talk with and any employee can easily approach the CENRO for queries, advice or to give suggestions or recommendations. This also cultivate a healthy relationship between the CENRO and the employees which could lead to greater or higher organizational productivity
- *Hospitality.* This is a trait embedded in our culture and for which Filipinos are known for. Every time there is an activity/event, the high-ranking official or the head of office of the organization or agency where the activity/event is taking place is expected to deliver a welcome message and show hospitality. A warm welcome makes people comfortable and appreciated and it also help build and enhance relationship with the guests/participants.
- *Teamwork.* This is best exemplified by cooperation and support of every individual in a team, unit or office in order to facilitate the successful conduct of an activity or event

VII. CHALLENGES MET

1. *Having difficulty to put mind on the task due to family concerns.*

It was on the 8th day of my FOE (October 3, 2021) when I learn that my child was sick. It was already difficult for me that I have to be away from my family, especially my kids for a long time. But it is much more difficult if you learn that your child is sick and you are hundreds of kilometers away. While technology helped in bridging the distance, it was not enough to put my mind at ease. This concern has affected me emotionally and mentally while I was doing my FOE.

2. *Not being conversant with DENR laws, policies and regulations particularly on forestry and land matters.*

I have to admit, my knowledge on forestry and lands - related laws and policies is limited. Since I joined DENR, I have never been assigned or exposed to forestry and land functions. My exposure and experience is on protected area management and biodiversity conservation. And so when I review or make action referrals I would open my ENRA lecture materials, or google the net or borrow the SPIC/citizen's charter handbook of my CENRO Host-Mentor, or simply ask him for guidance. Sometime it is also hard for me to follow conversations especially if I am not familiar with the policy.

3. *COVID-19 Health Protocols*

Observing health protocols such as mask and social distancing limits our ability to interact with others effectively. Communication is difficult with mask on and

with social distancing. Sometimes we are compelled to shorten our discussions because of fear of possibly contracting the virus.

VIII. SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following are the suggestions and recommendations I have put together which I believe will help improve the office performance of my FOE CENRO :

1. All sections and units must have the following important policies within reach for immediate reference:
 - ❖ Manual of Authorities on Technical Matters (DAO 2005-22 –DENR Identity Systems and Manual of Styles – CSW)
 - ❖ Manual of Authorities of Admin Matters
 - ❖ Manual of Authorities of Finance Matters
 - ❖ Copy of the DENR SPICS/Citizens Charter, preferably in booklet type
 - ❖ Compilation of DENR laws and policies such as Executive Orders (EOs) DENR Administrative Orders (DAO), Technical Bulletins, etc
2. Adoption of DAO 2005-22 – DENR Identity Systems and Manual of Styles;
3. To review and initiate discussion with concerned office as to possible amendment or updating of the Citizens Charter to conform with RA 11032 or the Ease of Doing Business and Efficient Government Service Delivery Act;
4. To be always conscious with timelines;
5. To include issues and concerns in the weekly report submitted by the monitoring stations;
6. Consolidated accomplishment reports should include a narrative report and the physical and financial report, and only attach as annexes to the report the means of verifiable indicators (MOVs)
7. Forms such as wetland information sheet (WIS), cave assessment reports, apprehension receipts, etc) should be not leave any blank fields. If there are no information, indicate “*No data available*”, “*not applicable*”, or any justification for being unable to fill-out that particular item or information;
8. Strengthen capability to facilitate blended mode of event facilitation (e.g PAMB) and invest in equipment, tv monitor, audio, ear phone, projector (fixed and mobile) as well as in enhancing technical skills to effectively facilitate a blended mode of meetings/events;
9. More conducive working space
10. Creation and operationalization of the GIS Unit – generation of uniform and updated maps;
11. Establishment office library/info corner
12. Assessment of employees training needs and preparation and initiating learning and development interventions
13. Practice Environmental Management System/Apply for ISO Certification on EMS

IX. References

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Protected Area Suitability Assessment Report for Tinuy-an Watershed. DENR. 2008

Suitability Assessment of the Philippine Eagle Nesting Territory in Barangay Burbuanan, Bislig City, Surigao del Sur as Philippine Eagle Critical Habitat Under RA 9147. PEF. August 2008

Appendices

- Daily Learning Journals
- Photographs
- Wrap Up and Assessment Powerpoint Presentation

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



(Left photo) Briefing and leveling off with CENRO Host-Mentor, Nathaniel E. Racho. (Right photo) Brief meeting and introduction with key personnel of CENRO Bislig



CENRO Racho and Chief of the Land Management Unit explains the process of issuing survey authority and the required supporting documents



Meeting and consultation with the staff of the Protected Areas, Biodiversity and Ecotourism Unit (PABEU) re: reviewed/evaluated PABEU accomplishment reports



Office tour by the CENRO Racho. (left) – Planning and Foreshore Unit. (right and photos below) 2nd floor is shared by the Conservation and Development Section (CDS) and the Monitoring and Enforcement Section (MES)



Administrative adjudication proceeding for apprehended/seized illegal forest products, conveyances, tools and equipment presided by CENRO Racho



(Left) Ms. Cheryl Taganahan, Enforcement Division (ED) of the DENR Regional explains the purpose of conducting gun handling and safety training to field enforcers. (Right) Gun Handling and Safety Training attended by enforcement officers from CENROs Bunawan, Cantilan and Bislig



Staff and personnel of the Land Management Unit (LMU) with CENRO Racho during the Handog Titulo in Brgy. Magsaysay, Tagbina, Surigao del Sur. A total of 109 patents were distributed during the event. (Left) with the Honorable Johnny Pimentel



(Left) PENRO Victor Sabornido, CENRO Nathaniel E. Racho, Chief of PABEU Feliciano Mutia, ENRA Learner Rosalie Gonzaga and Ms. Marilou Macabuhay, Chief of the Coastal and Foreshore Management Section (CRFMS) of DENR Regional Office and (right) Ms. Cleofie Aranas, Chief of the Protected Areas, Biodiversity and Ecotourism Section (PABES) during the ENIPAS Orientation cum PAMB Creation for the proposed Barcelona, Bongan, Lawigan and Valencia (BARBOLAVA) Protected Landscape and Seascape (PLS) held on September 29, 2021



(Left) Discussion on the action plan of CENRO Bislig re: protected area establishment of BARBOLAVA PLS. (Right) CENRO Racho explains procedure and requirements for the issuance of cutting permits



Visit to monitoring stations. (Left) CENRO Racho shows the mini-nursery established and maintained by the Scaling Monitoring Station. (Right) Newly constructed depository shed



Hinatuan Monitoring Station with its established and maintained mini-nursery



(Left) CENRO Racho shows and explains what to look in a bamboo to determine good planting materials. (Right) CENRO Bislig Depository Shed for confiscated illegal forest products and conveyances located at FWRDEC, Brgy. San Roque, Bislig City



(Left) CENRO Racho requests for seedlings to be used in the scheduled enhancement planting from FRWDEC's nursery. (Right) Technical Working Group (TWG) meeting called by the LGU of Bislig City to discuss the proposal of putting up a waste to energy facility (WtE) in Bislig City



Bamboo planting on a weekend with staff of the City Economic Enterprise Development Office (CEEDO) of LGU Bislig and manager of Tinuy-Falls, Ms. Everlee Viola (left)





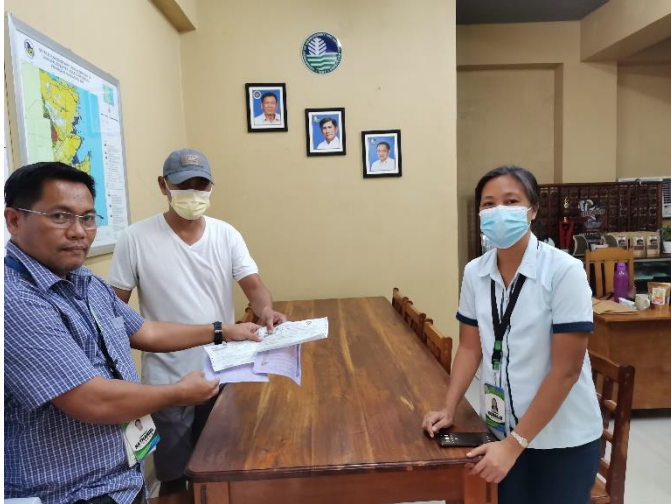
First day as Interim CENRO. Meets with key personnel of CENRO Bislig



Meeting and consultation with the staff and personnel of the Monitoring and Enforcement Section (MES)



(Left) Handing of cash assistance to a fire victim Mr. Feliciano Mutia, Chief of the PABEU. (Right) Commission on Audit (COA) field validators pays a courtesy call with CENRO Racho



(Left) Handing of document receipts by High Patrol Group (HPG) representative, for the processing of the transfer of ownership of confiscated conveyances issued with Order of Finality CENRO to Bislig



Meeting with PONTY Inc. - a youth organization in Lingig and Bislig City to discuss how said organization can be tapped as partner in promoting environmental protection, conservation and awareness



(Left) Administrative adjudication proceeding for apprehended/seized illegal forest products and conveyances presided by the Deputy CENRO, DMO III Mamerto Valbares. (Right) COA field validators shares initial result of NGP validation



Field Office Engagement (FOE) Wrap and Assessment cum Exit Conference attended by CENRO Bislig key personnel



THANK YOU, CENRO BISLIG!



FIELD OFFICE ENGAGEMENT (FOE)

WRAP-UP AND ASSESSMENT

OCTOBER 7, 2021, 3:00PM

CENRO Bislig, Surigao Del Sur

BACKGROUND

The Field Office Engagement (FOE) is one of the major learning approaches of the ENR Academy – Supervisory Course. It basically immerses the learner in the actual field situation, providing an opportunity, not only to apply the concepts, theories and principles learned in the 20-day classroom sessions but also to enhance technical, leadership and managerial skills through actual exposure and experience.

FOE CENRO	-	CENRO BISLIG
HOST-MENTOR	-	CENRO Nathaniel Racho
DURATION	-	September 27 – October 7, 2021

OBJECTIVES

- a. To apply the learnings gained from the 20-day classroom sessions;
- b. To gain better understanding of the job of a CENR Officer;
- c. To learn and enhance knowledge and skills on the implementation of various ENR programs/projects/activities in the CENRO



EXPECTATIONS

- a. Be afforded full support in the successful conduct of my FOE
- b. Be exposed to various tasks, roles and responsibilities of a CENR Officer
- c. Be provided with the opportunity to closely observe the CENRO, especially on how he acts or deals with partners, colleagues and subordinates;
- d. Be able to learn new knowledge and/or skills

TASK DETAILS

- **On Biodiversity**

- a. Reviewed the 3rd Quarter Accomplishment Report of the Protected Area Biodiversity and Ecotourism Unit (PABEU) and 3rd Quarter Report of Tinuy-an Falls Protected Landscapes (TFPL) which are due for signature/approval of the CENRO.
- b. Attended the Orientation of the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System (ENIPAS) Act or RA 7586 as amended, and Creation of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) for the Proposed Barcelona, Bongan, Lawigan, Valencia (BARBOLAVA) Protected Landscape and Seascape (PLS) at Dungaw Farm Resort, Barangay Tabon, Bislig City on September 29, 2021

TASK DETAILS

- **On Forestry**

- a. Reviewed acted documents pertaining to the issuance of tree cutting permits/ clearances
- b. Attended and observed the conduct of administrative adjudication proceedings for confiscated illegal forest products and conveyances, tools and equipment
- c. Participated in the NGP enhancement planting at Brgy. Bigaan, Hinatuan Surigao del Sur in October 2, 2021, and bamboo planting at Tinuy-an Falls on October 3, 2021
- d. Visited monitoring stations and CENRO Bislig Depository Shed at FWRDEC, Brgy. San Roque, Bislig City Surigao del Sur
- e. Meeting with MES personnel, October 4, 2021
- f. Attended the Gun Handling Operations, Safety, Maintenance and Basic Self Defense and Survival Skills Training held at the 48th IB Compound, Brgy. Maharlika, Bislig City (half day of 1st day only)

TASK DETAILS

- **Lands**

- a. Reviewed/Studied acted document on the issuance of survey authority; request for land status; and others
- b. Attended/Observed the conduct of Handog Titulo at Brgy. Magsaysay, Tagbina, Surigao del Sur on September 29, 2021

- **On Environment**

- a. Attended a Technical Working Group (TWG) Meeting called by LGU Bislig City to discuss the proposal of putting-up a Waste-to-Energy (WtE) facility in the city on October 1, 2021

Comments/Observations and Recommendations

+ observations

- ✓ Approachable CENRO (including editing of reports)
- ✓ High on ideas and high on execution – High on initiatives - communicate vision to the organization
- ✓ Consultative approach in making decisions
- ✓ Listens
- ✓ Look after employees welfare/wellbeing
- ✓ Recognizes good performing employees
- ✓ Teamwork – effort to excel (GAD Bangon)
- ✓ Good writing skills
- ✓ Regular conduct of administrative adjudication proceedings of apprehended/seized illegal forest products, conveyances, tools and equipment (it is referred as seizure and confiscation hearing in DAO 97-32)

Comments/Observations and Recommendations

+ observations

- ✓ Invitation of BLGUs in all hearings (even if they do not have participation in the illegal logging activities - reminder)
- ✓ Orderly conduct of meeting/events and other activities – adjudication proceeding, Handog Titulo, etc)
- ✓ Strong partnership with LGUs, District representative, PNP, Philippine Army and other NGAs
- ✓ Under oath reports (inspection/verification/investigation)
- ✓ Attachment of draft memo/reports(with corrections and comments) in case/document folders
- ✓ Monitoring boards and updated tarpaulined-map (e.g NGP, administrative jurisdiction) -

Comments/Observations and Recommendations

suggestions and recommendation

** All sections and units should have the following DENR guidelines within their reach*

- ☐ Manual of Authorities on Technical Matters (DAO 2005-22 –DENR Identity Systems and Manual of Styles – CSW)
- ☐ Manual of Authorities of Admin Matters
- ☐ Manual of Authorities of Finance Matters
- ☐ Production of booklet type – SPICS/Citizens Charter (all employees should have at least a basic working knowledge of all functions of DENR – participation/attendance to ENRA courses)
- ☐ DENR Policies, Rules and Regulations (EO, DAO, DMC, Technical Bulletin, etc)

Comments/Observations and Recommendations

suggestions and recommendation

- SPICS/Citizens Charter vs EODB – initiate discussion with RO
- Be always conscious of the timelines – within 3 days, within 7 days (submission of activity/accomplishment reports, etc)
- Weekly report of patrol stations include issues and concerns in the template:
- Include issues and concerns in post travel reports, activity reports and accomplishment reports)
- Consolidated report (narrative, physical, financial, annexes-MOVs)
- Submission of duly-filled up forms (WIS, cave assessment reports, apprehension receipts, etc) *No data available, not applicable, or any justification for being unable to fill-out that particular item or information – as a general rule all blank spaces in a form should be properly filled-out*

Comments/Observations and Recommendations

suggestions and recommendation

- Strengthen capability to facilitate blended mode of event facilitation (e.g PAMB) – invest in equipment, tv monitor, audio, ear phone, projector (fixed and mobile), technical skills
- More conducive working space (including procurement of energy saving aircon)
- Clear organizational structure/ clearly defined role and functions of each section/unit
- Creation and operationalization of the GIS Unit – generation of uniform and updated maps;
- Office library/info corner
- Installation of interpretive signage/billboard within office premise
- Assessment of employees training needs and preparation and initiating L&D interventions (CDP/IDP)
- Practice EMS/ Apply for EMS Certification



**DAGHAN KAAYONG
SALAMAT CENRO BISLIG!**