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 Address: FASPS - Project Management Division
 Visayas Avenue, Diliman QC
 Subject: MEMO DTD 10/08/2021 PROJECT STATUS REPORT OF THE PROJECT ENTITLED, "RESEARCH ON THE META-POPULATION OF TAMARAW IN MINDORO" AS OF CY 2021 3RD QUARTER

Addressee(s): FASPS -Office of the Director (DENRCO - FASPS OD)

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MEMORANDUM

OCT 07 2021

FOR **WILFREDO J. OBIEN**
Director
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service

FROM **THE CHIEF**
Project Management Division

SUBJECT : **PROJECT STATUS REPORT OF THE PROJECT ENTITLED,
"RESEARCH ON THE META-POPULATION OF TAMARAW IN
MINDORO" AS OF CY 2021 3RD QUARTER**

We are submitting herewith the Project Status Report (PSR) of the Special Project entitled, "Research on the Meta-population of Tamaraw in Mindoro" as of September 2021.

The Project aims to establish information on the island-wide habitats, distribution and estimated populations of Tamaraws in Mindoro and to develop alternative counting **methodology/ies** to estimate Tamaraw population suitable to a range of habitat types developed. The implementing units are the DENR-PENRO Occidental Mindoro and DENR- IV-B (MIMAROPA) Regional Office. At the end of the Project, the expected outputs are: a) Island-wide spatial map of Tamaraw distribution and habitats in Mindoro established; b) Tamaraw population in the Island of Mindoro estimated; and c) Appropriate **methodology/ies** for Tamaraw population count suitable to a range of habitat types developed.

The Project was approved for implementation by the Secretary on December 2, 2020 for special funding under DENR II.d. Conduct of Special Studies, Design and Development in Support of Biodiversity, Forestry, Mining and Environmental Management Operations. Last March 23, 2021, FASPS has received the revised WFP and BED Forms based on the comments of the Project Screening Group (PSG) for Special Projects during the virtual meeting held on January 12, 2021. A memorandum dated 12 April 2021 was sent again requesting the proponent to revise the submitted draft WFP to consider the comments of the FASPS-PAMD. The revised draft CY 2021-2022 WFP of the Project was submitted last June 30, 2020 and endorsed by FASPS to the management for approval on August, 6 2021. Said CY 2021-2022 WFP was approved last 13 August 2021. The Sub-Allotment Advice (SAA) with no. CO-R4B-101-2021-08-557 amounting to **PhP** 890,000.00 was issued to the DENR 4B on August 26, 2021. The Notice of Transfer of Allocation (NTA) amounting to **PhP** 551,000.00 was issued to DENR 4B to cover the cash requirements for the implementation of the Project was issued last August 31, 2021. The SAA was received by DENR 4B on 02 September 2021 and downloaded it to PENRO Occidental Mindoro on 15 September 2021.

As of the reporting period, the project conducted the following activities: a) Orientation of the project to all DENR Offices in Occidental and Oriental Mindoro; and b) Briefing and tasking for the project team. There are still no funds utilized yet to be reported.

In this regard, since the project is under the Cash-Based Budgeting System, we would like to remind the Project Team to immediately utilize the downloaded funds and submit the corresponding financial report (SAOBD).

In relation to this, attached is a Memorandum for the DENR 4-B Regional Executive Director providing a copy of the PSR.

For your information and consideration/signature.



EDDIE B. ABUGAN, JR.

Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service

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MEMORANDUM

OCT 08 2021

FOR **MA. LOURDES G. FERRER, CESO III**
Regional Executive Director, DENR R-4B

FROM **THE DIRECTOR**
Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service

SUBJECT : **PRE-IMPLEMENTATION STATUS REPORT OF THE PROJECT ENTITLED "RESEARCH ON THE META-POPULATION OF TAMARAW IN MINDORO" AS OF CY 2021 3RD QUARTER**


This refers to the **pre-implementation** status of the Special Project entitled, "Research on the **Meta-population of Tamaraw** in Mindoro" as of CY 2021 3rd Quarter.

The Project was ~~app~~proved for implementation by the Secretary on December 2, 2020 for special **funding** under DENR II.d. Conduct of Special Studies, Design and Development in Support of Biodiversity, Forestry, Mining and Environmental Management Operations. Last March 23, 2021, FASPS has received the revised WFP and BED Forms based on the comments of the Project Screening Group (PSG) for Special Projects during the virtual meeting held on January 12, 2021. A memorandum dated 12 April 2021 was sent again requesting the proponent to revise the submitted draft WFP to consider the comments of the **FASPS-PAMD**. The revised draft CY 2021-2022 **WFP** of the Project was submitted last June 30, 2020 and endorsed by FASPS to the management for approval on August, 6 2021. Said CY 2021-2022 WFP was approved last 13 August 2021. The Sub-Allotment Advice (SAA) with no. CO-R4B-101-2021-08-557 amounting to **PhP 890,000.00** was issued to the DENR 4B on August 26, 2021. The Notice of Transfer of Allocation (NTA) amounting to **PhP 551,000.00** was issued to DENR 4B to cover the cash requirements for the implementation of the Project was issued last August 31, 2021. The **SAA** was received by DENR 4B on 02 September 2021 and downloaded it to PENRO Occidental Mindoro on 15 September 2021.

As of the reporting period, the project conducted the following activities: a) Orientation of the project to **all DENR Offices** in Occidental and Oriental Mindoro; **and** b) Briefing and **tasking** for the project team. There are still no funds utilized yet to be reported.

In this regard, since the project is under ~~the~~ Cash-Based Budgeting System, we would like to remind the Project **Team** to immediately utilize the downloaded funds and submit the corresponding financial report (SAOBD).

For your **information** and consideration.


WILFREDO J. OBIEN

cc: **Marilyn R. Limpiada**
Chief, Planning and Management Division

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DENR Foreign-Assisted and Special Projects Service
Pre-Implementation Status Report
As of September 2021

I. PROFILE
Project Title: Research on the Meta-population of Tamaraw in Mindoro
Fund Source/s: DENR (II.d. Conduct of Special Studies, Design and Development in Support of Biodiversity, Forestry, Mining and Environmental Management Operations)
Total Project Cost: PhP 2,000,000.00
Signing Date: 2021 (approval of project)
Duration: Two (2) years
Effectivity Date:
Closing Date:
Implementing Agency: DENR-PENRO Occidental Mindoro and DENR- IV-B (MIMAROPA) Regional Office
Sector: Biodiversity
Regions: IV-B
Beneficiaries: DENR Region IV-B (MIMAROPA), concerned PENROs, CENROs, PASU, LGUs, NGOs, Academe and other institutions in Mindoro in planning and aligning their programs and initiatives for the conservations of the Tamaraw.
<p>Description:</p> <p>The Tamaraw, a critically endangered mammal found only in the island of Mindoro and the proposed National Land Mammal, continues to face challenges and threats that contribute to its general population decline over the last century. The Tamaraw Conservation and Management Action Plan (TCMAP) is the result of Population Habitat and Viability Assessment Workshop conducted in December 2018 by the DENR Tamaraw Conservation Program, funded by BMB-Biodiversity Finance Initiative (BIOFIN) and facilitated by BMB-Biodiversity Finance Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group and Conservation Planning Specialist Group.</p> <p>The Population Habitat and Viability Assessment (PHVA) workshop in 2018 has identified many issues and concerns that lead to the crafting of the 10-year TCMAP. This proposal aims to answer some primary issues and concerns on meta-population component.</p> <p>Per TCMAP, there are many gaps on the knowledge of the population dynamics of the Tamaraw. This issue is caused by information gaps on the possible locations and habitat range of Tamaraws across Mindoro. As a result, the remaining population of the Tamaraw cannot be estimated for the whole island of Mindoro but limited only to its core habitat within Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP). Furthermore, the only method of counting being used since year 2000 within 2,200 hectares Tamaraw core habitat in MIBNP is the Intensive Concentration Count (ICC) or Simultaneous Multi-vantage Point Count (SMVPC) where "controlled burning" is the preparatory activity to conduct the ICC/SMVPC to improve visibility of Tamaraw and enhance sprouts of cogon and talahib grasses which are main forage for said animal. With this method, there are major</p>

disadvantages like burning risks other forms of life, reduces fertility of the soil, hamper diversity and prevent forest succession. Finally, ICC/MPV is suitable only in a grassland ecosystem while Tamaraws have been recorded in scrublands and forest ecosystems.

In order to address the aforesaid issues, this project covers two (2) major parts:

- a) Island-wide identification and mapping of the Tamaraw locations and habitats; and
- b) Meta-population monitoring **thru** identification of appropriate count methods suitable to a range of habitat type.

Mindoro Island (provinces of Occidental and Oriental Mindoro) covering twenty-two (22) municipalities. The 22 municipalities were identified based on land classification map and actual land cover per **Google** earth view. The target sites also include unexplored areas (outside of Tamaraw core habitat) of Mts. **Iglit-Baco** natural Park, and other known habitats of Tamaraw.

Objective:

Specifically, the Project aims to:

1. Establish information on the island-wide habitats, distribution and estimated populations of Tamaraws in Mindoro; and
2. Develop alternative counting **methodology/ies** to estimate Tamaraw population suitable to a range of habitat types developed.

The following are the overall expected Outputs:

1. Island-wide spatial map of Tamaraw distribution and habitats in Mindoro established
2. Tamaraw population in the Island of Mindoro estimated
3. Appropriate **methodology/ies** for Tamaraw population count suitable to a range of habitat types developed

Components:

Component	Expected Outputs
1. Establishment of information on the island-wide habitats, distribution and estimated populations of Tamaraws in Mindoro	1.0. Island-wide spatial map of Tamaraw distribution and habitats in Mindoro
	1.1. Key Informant interview (KII) report(s)/community consultation report(s)
	1.2. Rapid habitat assessment report(s) submitted with baseline information on Tamaraw population estimates
	1.3. Technical report and documentation report
	1.4. Island-wide spatial map of Tamaraw distribution and habitats in Mindoro
2. Meta-population monitoring thru identification of appropriate count methods suitable to a range of habitat types (e.g. scrubland, forest, grassland)	2.0. Appropriate count method identified
	2.1. Report on the workshop conducted
	2.2. Report on the consultation
	2.3. Technical Report/ Process documentation on the initial testing of the method
3. Project Monitoring and Supervision/ Project Management	3.1. Quarterly progress reports
	3.2. Preparation of Final Technical Report
	3.3. Project Completion Report

II. Project Status


The Project was approved for implementation by the Secretary on December 2, 2020 for special funding under DENR II.d. Conduct of Special Studies, Design and Development in Support of Biodiversity, Forestry, Mining and Environmental Management Operations. Last March 23, 2021, FASPS has received the revised WFP and BED Forms based on the comments of the Project Screening Group (PSG) for Special Projects during the virtual meeting held on January 12, 2021. A memorandum dated 12 April 2021 was sent again requesting the proponent to revise the submitted draft WFP to consider the comments of the FASPS-PAMD. The revised draft CY 2021-2022 WFP of the Project was submitted last June 30, 2020 and endorsed by FASPS to the management for approval on August, 6 2021. Said CY 2021-2022 WFP was approved last 13 August 2021. The Sub-Allotment Advice (SAA) with no. CO-R4B-101-2021-08-557 amounting to PhP 890,000.00 was issued to the DENR 4B on August 26, 2021. The Notice of Transfer of Allocation (NTA) amounting to PhP 551,000.00 was issued to DENR 4B to cover the cash requirements for the implementation of the Project was issued last August 31, 2021. The SAA was received by DENR 4B on 02 September 2021 and downloaded it to PENRO Occidental Mindoro on 15 September 2021.

As of the reporting period, the project conducted the following activities: a) Orientation of the project to all DENR Offices in Occidental and Oriental Mindoro; and b) Briefing and tasking for the project team. There are still no funds utilized yet to be reported.

III. Issues and Concerns

Issue/Concern	Actions taken/to be taken
The Project Team has yet to utilize the downloaded funds.	Since the project is under the Cash-Based Budgeting System, the Project Team needs to immediately utilize the downloaded funds and submit the corresponding financial report (SAOBD).
According to the Project Team, the targeted 9 municipalities to be assessed is not feasible anymore since the start of the implementation was delayed and due to the weather condition in Mindoro which greatly affects the implementation of the project activities.	The Project Team to submit a catch-up plan for the activities that will not be accomplished this year.

Prepared by:


Alvin Josue L. Reyes
PEO I, FASPS-PMD

Noted by:


Eddie B. Abugan, Jr.
Chief, FASPS-PMD

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