



October 13, 2021

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
MIMAROPA REGION
1515 L & S Building, Roxas Blvd, Ermita, Manila

THRU : The OIC, PENR Officer

FROM : The CENR Officer

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL FUND FOR THE HIRING OF
FOREST PROTECTION OFFICERS FOR 2021**

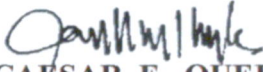
The strict implementation and enforcement of Environmental Laws is one of the priority of DENR CENRO Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro to minimize if not totally eradicated illegal activities in conservation areas including NGP turned-over projects within the municipalities of Sablayan, Mamburao, Abra de Ilog, Paluan, Sta. Cruz and Looc-Lubang. This Office has a total conservation area of 128,157 hectares (103,228 hectares of open forest and 1,116 hectares of mangrove and 23,813 hectares of graduated NGPs from 2011 to 2015) of conservation areas which cannot be safeguarded from illegal activities for the lack of workforce, equipment, vehicles and gadgets.

The 2019 additional Forest Protection Officer (FPO) strengthened the intensive forest protection and law enforcement implementation that resulted to the apprehension of illegally cut forest products and confiscation undocumented power chainsaw as well as filing of criminal complaint against environmental laws violators. Effective forest protection activities through patrolling manifested in the result of LAWIN patrol wherein treats are decreasing.

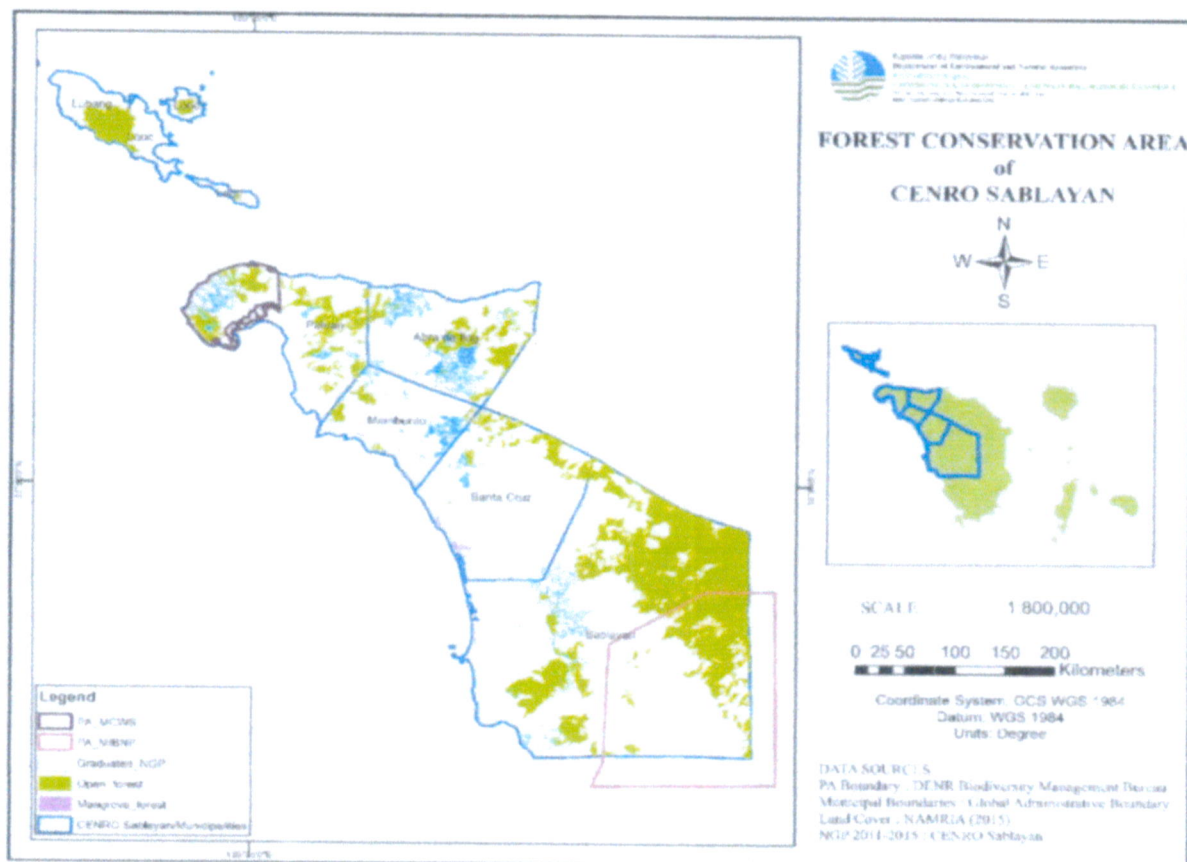
For this year 2020, Monitoring and Law Enforcement of this CENR Office documented the big difference of having sufficient number of Forest Protection Officers (FPO) especially in the augmentation of LAWIN patrol. In order to continue the above-mentioned success in Forest Protection, may we respectfully request the amount of Four Million Eighty Thousand Pesos (P 4,080,000.00) additional funds intended for the hiring of Forty (40) Forest Protection Officers from January to December 2021 for CENRO Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro.

Attached are the Conservation Area Plan for Natural Forest, Map of Conservation Area and FY 2021 Work and Financial Plan.

For your consideration and approval.


CAESAR E. QUEBEC

Forest Conservation Area Plan for the Natural Forest in CENRO-Sablayan Mindoro Map



Map showing the Forest Protection Area/Conservation Area (boundary, forest cover/condition, other relevant features)

General Data

Location:	Paluan, Abra de Ilog, Mamburao, Sta. Cruz and Sablayan
Size of natural forest area:	128,157 hectares (103,228 has. of open forest and 1,116 has. of mangrove and 23'813 has of graduated NGP's 2011 to 2015)
Resource Manager:	CENRO Caesar E. Quebec, PASu Arlene Francisco(Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary) and PASu Robert Duquil Mt. Iglit-Baco National Park)
Data Manager:	Forest Technician I Joseph Mateo/Forest Ranger Donita Rose Robiso
Patrol Organizer(s):	Forester I Christopher B. Rosario, Forester II Ariston SJ Ramos
Number of Patrollers:	34 patrollers (10 from CENRO-Sablayan Main, 8 from MIBNP and 16 from CENRO-Sablayan coordinating office)

Area Description:

The natural forest stand in CENRO Sablayan is located at different Barangays and Municipalities; Brgy. Pag-asa, San Agustin, Batongbuhay, Malisbong, Ligaya, Burgos in Municipality of Sablayan; Brgy. Pinagturilan in the municipality of Sta.cruz; Brgy. San Luis in the municipality of Mamburao; Brgy Cabacao, Sta. Maria and Udalo in municipality of Abra de Ilog; Brgy. Harrison, Tubili and Mananao in municipality of Paluan; and 2 protected areas, Mt.Iglit-Baco Natural Park and Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary. These areas are classified as steep to very steep slope and with its elevation ranging from 200 to 1,300 masl. These natural forests are composed of Dipterocarp and Molave species with an average diameter of 150-200 cm. These areas are drained by Amnay

River, a perennial river supported by its tributary Makatolyo creek which is the source of the potable water supply and irrigation for lowland agricultural areas in the municipality of Sablayan. Old Growth forests is still observed at Siburan Rainforest of Sitio Yapang, Barangay Batongbuhay, Sablayan within the Aruyan-Malate watershed.

Current Forest Condition:

The natural forest stand in CENRO Sablayan consists of Dipterocarp forest (Lauan, Apitong, Palosapis and Bagtikan; and Molave forest (Molave, Dao, Narra, and Nato) in Sta. Cruz where exceptionally large trees thrive in Sablayan, Kamagong in Paluan, Guiho, Almaciga, Apitong and Palosapis in Abra de Ilog, Taluto and Narra in Mamburao, Apitong and Lawaan in Sta. Cruz; and mangrove and beach forest within the coastal area. The forest cover of the natural forest is generally early to advance secondary forest with moderate number of regenerants (based on the reports generated from SMART year 2017). Forest degradation rate of CENRO Sablayan is 20.53%, forest loss is 22.10 % and forest gain is 24.78 % within span of 7 years based on 2003-2010 NAMRIA forest cover change map. Common resources use is charcoal making, kaingin, fuel wood, extraction of non-timber-forest products such as resin and medicines. Annual occurrence of forest fire due to highly combustible forest litters and the unchecked activities of the local communities. Thus, contributing to forest loss and degradation.

Moreover, the forest serves as habitat to the remaining endemic and threatened floral and faunal diversity in the area belonging to the groups of herps, aves and mammals. As part of the LAWIN Forest and Biodiversity Protection System, wildlife that indicates good forest health were identified to aid in the analysis of the state of the remaining forest in the area. These so called indicator species that were identified for Occidental Mindoro are the following: a) Black-hooded coucal (*Centropus steeri*), Mindoro hornbill (*Penelopides mindorensis*), Mindoro racket-tail (*Prioniturus mindorensis*), Mindoro imperial pigeon (*Ducula mindorensis*), Philippine hawk eagle (*Nisaetus philippensis*), Pink-bellied imperial pigeon (*Ducula poliocephala*), Yellow-breasted fruit dove (*Ptilinopus occipitalis*) and Mindoro warty pig (*Sus Oliveri*). Some of which are now rarely seen in the area

Conservation objectives

The natural forest within the CENRO's jurisdiction needs to be conserved and protected to ensure: (a) continues irrigation to the agricultural lands; (b) provision of habitat for the numerous endemic and threatened floral and faunal diversity such as the above mentioned indicator species; (c) effects of destructive phenomena such as landslides, rockslides, mudslides and flash floods be abated to protect the local community; and d) serve as source of mother/plus trees of Apitong and other forest tree species for future reforestation and research projects.

Conservation targets:

In order to meet the conservation objectives, forest loss will be reduced from 22.10 % based on 2003-2010 NAMRIA FCC map to 10 % within the next 5 years, to mitigate the risk of water supply shortage for irrigation and domestic use. Likewise, the area of natural forest will be increased by 5% within the period to provide habitat for wildlife. The forest patrol's increased visibility will deter incidents of poaching and other illegal activities which will give areas enough time to recover and regenerate. Therefore, incidence of threats such as kaingin, charcoal making and illegal logging that result to forest degradation will be reduced from 20.53% to 10 % within the next 5 years. Moreover 24.78% forest gain will be increased to 30%.

Desired Future Forest Condition:

The forest has good source of mother trees for reforestation projects, research purposes and water retention capacities resulting in springs delivering water of potable quality for irrigation and domestic use all throughout the year. These forest are composed predominantly of *Dipterocarp* species (e.g. White Lauan and Apitong) while pioneer species are thriving in open canopy portions. In addition, these forests shall also provide other ecosystem services such as food, climate amelioration and serve as habitat for wildlife especially those that are critically endangered.

Management Interventions and Responsibilities:

In order to achieve the desired forest condition patrolling activities should be increase, IEC campaigns should be regular, enforcement of environmental laws, income generation projects should be introduced and involvement of the LGUs and the local community would be encouraged.

To increase the patrol activities patrol teams have been created which were composed of the following:

- Team Leader- Forest Ranger/ Forester/ Forest Technician
- Members- Forest Ranger/ Forest Protection Officer/ Forestry Aide

Regular IEC Campaigns activities

- School visit
- Focus Group Discussion
- Symposium

Environmental Law Enforcement

- Effective implementation of environmental laws

Income Generation Project

- NGP
- CBFM
- ISF/FLAGT/FLAGMA/SIFMA

Table 1: Table of interventions

Intervention	Timeframe/frequency	Responsible	Required resources per year	Amount (Php)	Source
Patrolling	January 2017 onwards, weekly per team	Forest Rangers Forest Technician Forester	Salaries and Allowances, equipment (mobile phone/tablet (replacement/ maintenance), power bank, rain coat, Bag, Shoes, Hammock, GPS)	2,000,000 per annum	Regional office
Data Management	January 2017 onwards, whenever patrol data are available	Forest Ranger Forest Technician	Desktops with printer, wifi router and external hard drives & other office supplies	200,000	Regional office

	<i>and reports are needed</i>		<i>(bond paper, ink, folder, etc.)</i>		
<i>Data review and response</i>	<i>Every Monday of the week</i>	<i>CENRO, Technical Supervisor Chief REU Patrol Organizer Data Manager</i>	<i>Allowances</i>	<i>100,000</i>	<i>Regional office</i>
<i>Assessment and Implementation of Patrol Plan</i>	<i>January 2017 onwards (whenever applicable)</i>	<i>CENRO, Technical Supervisor Chief REU Patrol Organizer Data Manager</i>			
<i>Updating of Patrol Plan</i>	<i>January 2017 onwards (whenever applicable)</i>	<i>CENRO, Technical Supervisor Chief REU Patrol Organizer</i>			
<i>Dialogue, Forum (between patrollers and supervisors)</i>	<i>January 2017 onwards (whenever applicable)</i>	<i>CENRO, Technical Supervisor Chief REU Patrol Organizer</i>			

Implementation arrangements

CENRO Sablayan will utilize Foresters, Forest Rangers, Forest Technicians, and Forest Protection Officers for the patrolling and data management operations under LAWIN. In doing so, they will coordinate with the LGUs in the conduct of patrolling activities and crafting responses to observed threats. Patrol organizers from the CENRO will meet regularly with the patrollers prior to patrolling in order to plan the route and schedule. Moreover, the CENRO will coordinate with the local communities in patrolling activities. Afterwards, they will submit the reports regularly to the CENRO -- and furnish their respective LGUs -- for appropriate actions in response to the observed threats within the conservation area. These reports shall be transmitted to the Forest Management Bureau. Moreover, the Local Multi-sectoral Forest Protection Council (MFPC) are being re-activated to assist in forest protection efforts.

Agency/Bureau: DENR MIMAROPA REGION

[illegible]

Approved:

CAESAR E. QUINN
CENTR Officer