



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE  
National Road, Brgy. Sto. Niño, Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro  
E-mail: [cenrosablayan@denr.gov.ph](mailto:cenrosablayan@denr.gov.ph)

May 2, 2022

MEMORANDUM

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

THRU : The OIC, PENR Officer  
DENR-PENRO Mamburao

FROM : The CENR Officer

SUBJECT : **INITIAL REPORT ON THE ENCROACHMENT OF ILLEGAL  
SETTLERS IN LAWAAN WATERSHED AND COMMUNAL  
FORESTLAND LOCATED IN SITIO LAWAAN, BARANGAY  
BALAO, ABRA DE ILOG, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO**

**RECORDED**  
Date: 5-2-22  
By: [Signature]

Respectfully forwarded herewith is the initial report of the investigation team regarding the encroachment of illegal settlers within Lawaan Watershed which is currently the spring source of potable water supply for the four (4) barangays of Abra de Ilog. This area should be free from settlers to avoid possible contamination and in order to preserve the quality of water as Double AA classification.

In this connection, and in order to resolve this issue, all concerned government Agencies such as the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Local Government Unit (LGU) of Abra de Ilog, Department of Health (DOH), Department of Agriculture (DA), National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP), etc. shall convene for a win-win solution, along with but not limited to: a) **identification of site possible for relocation of settlers;** b) **provide food requirements;** c) **provide lumber for house construction;** d) **hauling of various materials from the settled area to the relocation site;** e) **sanitation and hygiene services.** This Office shall initiate a dialog with the above-mentioned government agencies to implement these interventions which may possibly applicable in order to moved out the illegal settlers within the Lawaan Watershed.

For your information and evaluation.

  
FOR. ANASTACIO A. SANTOS, MPA

Copy furnished:

Municipal Mayor  
Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro



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May 2, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

FOR : The CENR Officer

FROM : The Deputy CENR Officer

SUBJECT : **INITIAL REPORT ON THE ENCROACHMENT OF ILLEGAL SETTLERS IN LAWAAN WATERSHED AND COMMUNAL FORESTLAND LOCATED IN SITIO LAWAAN, BARANGAY BALAO, ABRA DE ILOG, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO**

In compliance with the directives under Memorandum of the OIC, PENR Officer dated April 25, 2022 to conduct an immediate investigation so as to determine the veracity of the allegations regarding the aforementioned subject.

The undersigned together with Forest Ranger Rodrigo Castillo have coordinated with the MPDC of Abra de Ilog on April 28, 2022 before we proceeded to Sitio Lawaan, Brgy. Balao, Abra de Ilog, Occidental Mindoro. We have initially conducted inspection and ground verification on the relative location of the community and found to be within Communal Forest of Abra de Ilog as per Land Classification Map No. 1183 dated September 7, 1935. The team also interviewed the Tribal Leader Danny Sonoran, according to him, they have continuously occupied the area for more than twenty (20) years ago comprising about forty (40) families as of this date.

The Lawaan Watershed and Communal Forest of Abra de Ilog are supposed to be devoid from settlers to avoid possible contamination and in order to preserve and conserve its freshness and purity of water which supplies the four (4) barangays of the municipality.

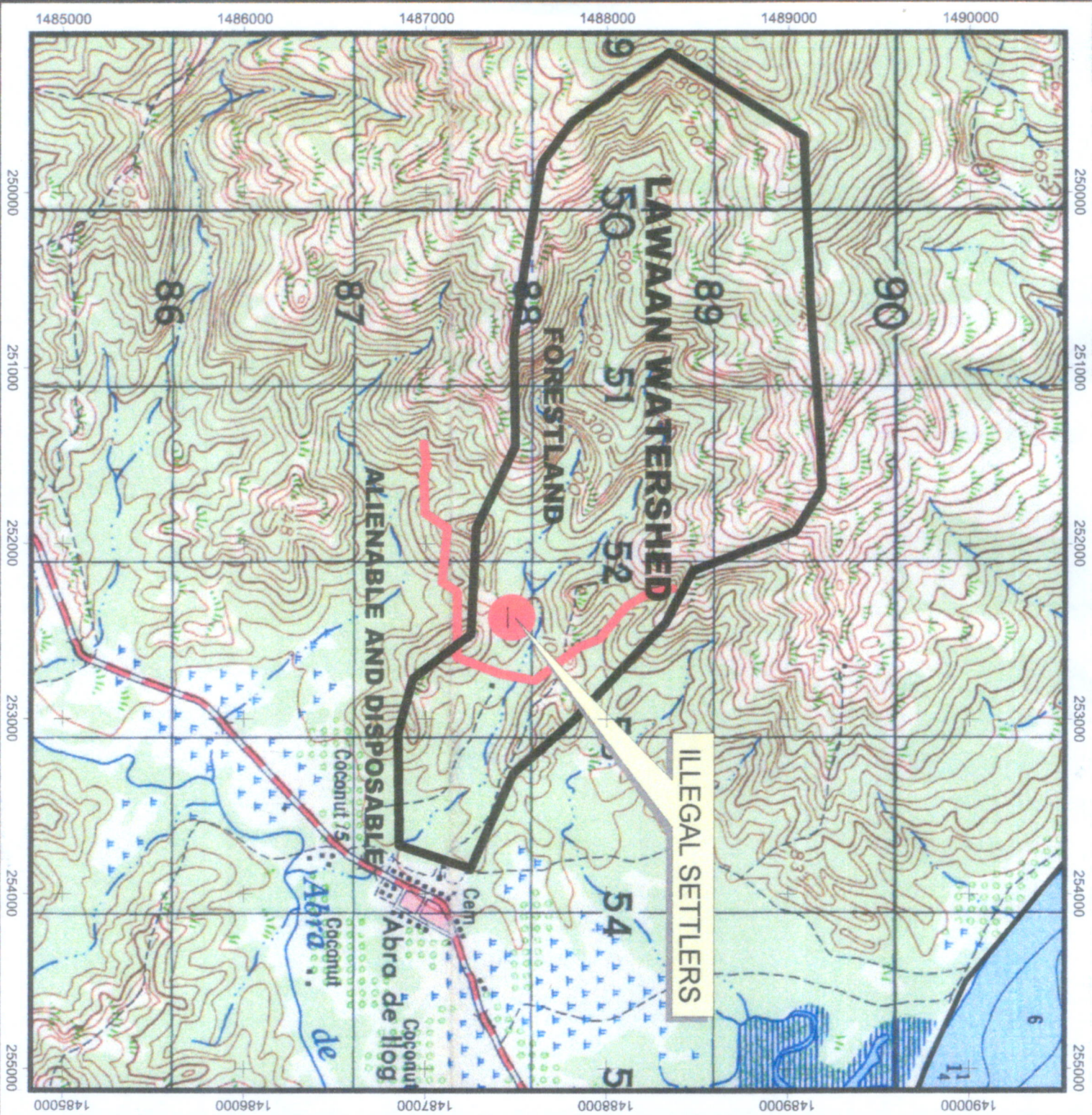
The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) could not resolve this issue alone, provided, all concerned government agencies such as LGU of Abra de Ilog, Department of Health (DOH), National Commission on Indigenous People (NCIP), Department of Agriculture (DA), etc. shall convene for a win-win solution, along with but not limited to the identification of site for possible relocation of settlers, food requirements, lumber for house construction, hauling of various material from the settled area to the relocation site and sanitation services. These interventions may possibly be applicable in order to move out the illegal settlers in the area.

Attached herewith are geo-tagged pictures and sketch map showing the relative location of the community within the Communal Forest and Lawaan Watershed.

For your information and evaluation.

ISAIAS A. GUIMOD





**MAP**  
**SHOWING THE RELATIVE**  
**LOCATION OF**  
**ILLEGAL SETTLERS**  
**WITHIN**  
**LAWAAN WATERSHED**

LOCATED AT :

Sitio Lawaan  
 Brgy. Balao  
 Mun. Abra de Ilog  
 Prov Occidental Mindoro

200 0 200 400 Meters  
 SCALE 1 : 30,000

LEGEND :

- Forestland boundary
- illegal settlers community
- Lawaan Watershed

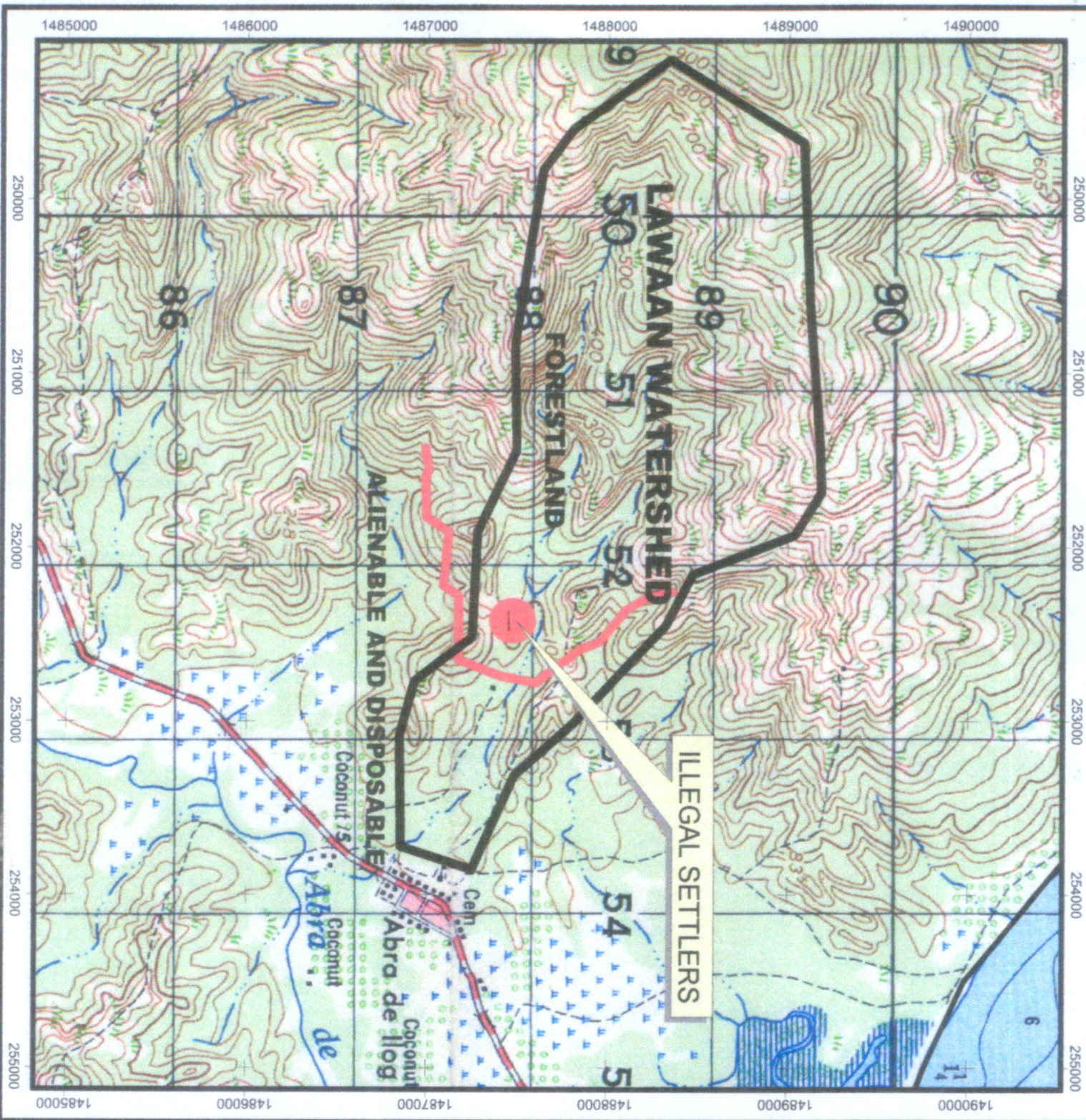
Surveyed and Prepared by :

**ISAAS A. GUIMOD**  
 For III/ Deputy DENR Officer

Noted :

**FOR. ANASTACIO A. SANTOS, MPA**  
 DENR Officer

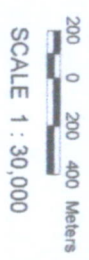




**MAP**  
**SHOWING THE RELATIVE**  
**LOCATION OF**  
**ILLEGAL SETTLERS**  
**WITHIN**  
**LAWAAN WATERSHED**

LOCATED AT :

Sitio Lawaan  
 Brgy. Baiiao  
 Mun. Abra de Ilog  
 Prov. Occidental Mindoro



LEGEND :

- Forestland boundary
- Illegal settlers community
- Lawaan Watershed

Surveyed and Prepared by :

**ISLAS AGUIBOM**  
 For III/ Deputy CENR Officer

Noted :

**FOR ANASTACIO A. SANTOS, MPA**  
 CENR Officer



Geo-tagged pictures taken during the initial investigation on illegal settlers of Lawaan Watershed

