



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Region IV- MIMAROPA
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
Barangay III (Poblacion), Roxas, Palawan
Contact No. 09171606578 / 09175028647
Email address: cenroroxaspalawan@denr.gov.ph

October 04, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The PENRO
Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

FROM : The CENRO
Roxas Palawan

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SAND AND GRAVEL IN BRGY. TININTINAN AND BRGY. POBLACION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ARACELI, PALAWAN**

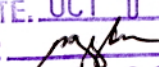
Respectfully forwarding the memorandum report of our MGB Embedded Personnel dated 27 September 2022 regarding the above-cited subject.

For your action and recommendation.


PABLO L. CRUZ

Cc: **The Regional Executive Director**
Department of Environment Natural Resources – MIMAROPA Region

The Regional Director
Mines and Geosciences Bureau – MIMAROPA Region

DENR-CENRO ROXAS
RELEASED
DATE: OCT 04 2022
BY: 
NO. 2022-10-1498



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September 27, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The CENR Officer
Community Environment and Natural Resources Office
Roxas, Palawan

FROM : The Undersigned

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE ILLEGAL EXTRACTION OF SAND
AND GRAVEL IN BRGY. TININTINAN AND BRGY.
POBLACION IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF ARACELI,
PALAWAN**



Background Information

On 20th to 24th September, 2022, the Undersigned together with EMB EnMO Mark Joseph Gregas, conducted mining monitoring activities in the Municipality of Araceli, Palawan. This is in compliance to conduct investigation and coordinate with concerned LGUs in regards with the transmitted e-mail message reaching Dir. Tuchia Gaddie of DENR CO/SCIS that there is an alleged quarrying activities along the coastal areas of Palawan. The informant failed to mention the specific location of this claim.

Findings and Observation

1. EnMO Mr. Gregas and the Undersigned first conducted inspection in Brgy. Poblacion. The undersigned then noted sacked sand and gravel along the coast (photo 2). Mr. Teddy Ballidor and his topdown (photo 1) were also noted in the vicinity.
2. The undersigned then interviewed Mr. Ballidor if he has any information on who utilizes then sacked SAG observed.
3. Mr. Ballidor insisted that he has no idea on who owns the SAG material and claims that he is checking at the coastal area when the undersigned saw him. The undersigned then elucidated to Mr. Ballidor the penal sanctions of such



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extraction of earth materials without pertinent permits and advised him to report such activities to the authorities. He agreed then left the vicinity.

4. There are 100 sacked SAG which are of notably different color / composition compared to the materials within the coastal area of Brgy. Poblacion.
5. The undersigned then interviewed two fisherfolks within the area. They stated that such materials were sourced from Kutad Island. However, they did not know who transported the SAG.
6. The undersigned and Mr. Gregas then went to the beach of Brgy. Tinintinan and saw sacked SAG materials with a different provenance loaded in *Shane Jacob* Boat and along the coast (photo 3). There are 22 sacks of SAG materials observed (photo 4 and 5)
7. No attendant of the sacked materials were observed within the site. However, the undersigned were able to interview some of the residents. The residents then pinpointed a certain Mr. Escubin which utilizes the said SAG. No names were disclosed on who owned the *Shane Jacob Boat*.
8. Upon further investigation, the undersigned found the small scale hollow block production of Mr. Joey Escubin. Fortunately, Mr. Escubin is present at the time of inspection (photo 6).
9. The undersigned then explained To Mr. Escubin that such extraction and utilization of SAG materials require permits.
10. Two more small scale hollow block production were noted within the area.
11. Upon interview, caretaker Jeremy said the hollowblocks production (photo 9 and 10) were owned by Mr. Jerry Lledo who works in the Government Municipality of Araceli.
12. Another production is owned by the interviewed Mr. Norjun Ezuleo (photo 11).
13. Some of the materials were sourced by extracting directly on the ground (photo 12).



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FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. There are no active permittees of CSAG in the Municipality of Araceli, particularly in Brgy. Poblacion and Brgy. Tinintinan.
2. Intensive IEC on the Mining Laws is recommended both to the residents and the LGU of Araceli.
3. Based on the field findings, Mr. Joey Escubin, Mr. Jerry Lledo and Mr. Norjun Ezuleo were found to be in violation of Section 103 of RA 7942, otherwise known as the Philippine Mining Act of 1995, which provides:

Section 103. Theft of Minerals – Any person extracting minerals and disposing the same without a mining agreement, lease, permit, or license or steals minerals or ores or the products thereof from mines or mills or processing plants shall, upon conviction, be imprisoned from six (6) months to six (6) years to pay a fine from Ten thousand pesos (P 10,000.00) to Twenty thousand pesos (P 20,000.00), or both at the discretion of the appropriate court. In addition, he shall be liable to pay damages and compensation for the materials removed, extracted, and disposed of.

A Cease and Desist Order must be issued to affect the same

4. Strict implementation of environmental laws must be incessantly observed by the LGU particularly Mr. Jerry Lledo who allegedly works in the Municipal Government of Araceli, Palawan.
5. Further investigation of the reported extraction in Kutad Island,
6. Such direct extraction from the ground should be discouraged as it cannot be replenished and can pose fall accident when left unchecked and uncovered.

For the CENRO'S consideration and further instruction



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Science Research Specialist II



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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Photo 1. Topdown belonging to Mr. Teddy Ballidor



Photo 2. Sacked SAG materials observed in Brgy. Poblacion, Araceli, Palawan



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Photo 3. Shane Jacob boat loaded with SAG materials





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Photo 4 and 5. Observed Sacked SAG materials in Brgy. Tinintinan Beach front. The sacked SAG has a different material than the beach sand, indicating different source.



Photo 6. Mr Joey Escubin (red tank top) owner of the small scale hollowblocks



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Photo 7 and 8. SAG materials utilized for the production of hollow blocks owned by Mr. Joey Escubin.



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Photo 9 and 10. Hollowblocks production owned by Mr. Jerry Lledo.



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Photo 11. Hollowblocks production owned by Mr. Norjun Ezuleo.



Photo 12. Source of Sand Materials of Mr. Ezuleo. This pit poses a safety hazard.



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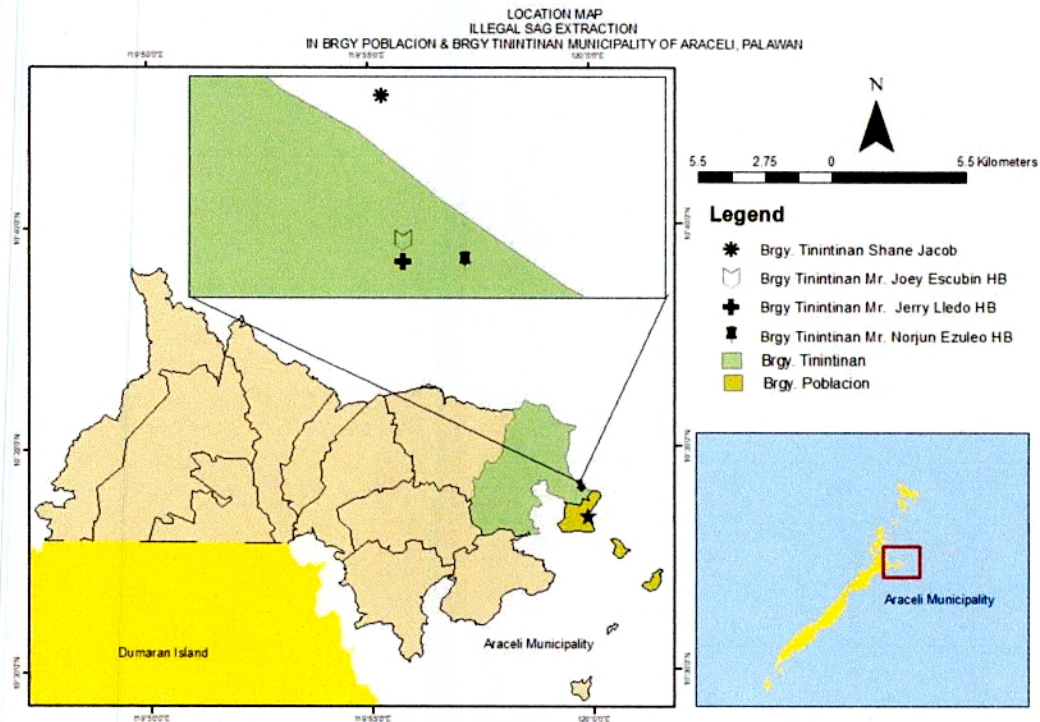


Figure 1. Location Map