

REQUEST FOR DATA REGARDING FOREST TENURIAL INSTRUMENTS IN PALAWAN

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To: ppdopalawan@gmail.com

Cc: chynnaprochina@gmail.com, DENR Mimaropa Region <mimaroparegion@denr.gov.ph>, "penropalawan@denr.gov.ph" <penropalawan@denr.gov.ph>

Dear Ms. Prochina,

We are writing in response to your recent data request concerning tenurial instruments in Palawan, essential for the update of the Provincial Development and Physical Framework Plan spanning 2024-2033, with specific focus on PDPFP Volume II, Production Land Development Framework.

Your request highlights the necessity for data related to tenurial instruments in Palawan for the years 2010, 2015, and 2020. Accordingly, the intention is to address identified gaps evident in the framework plan update, specifically the following dimensions:

- 1. Number of Agreements per Tenurial Instrument
- 2. Total Covered Areas (in Hectares) per Tenurial Instrument
- 3. Maps delineating the locations of these Tenurial Instruments
- 4. An inventory of municipalities hosting these tenurial instruments

At the outset, we provided you with our website link, which facilitates access to the Philippine Forestry Statistics—a comprehensive published resource capable of addressing the initial two points mentioned above.

Subsequently, during our recent telephone conversation, you indicated your specific requirements for municipality-specific listings and precise geographical maps indicating the locations of issued forest tenure instruments. However, we regret to inform you that due to the sensitive nature of the data involved and the confidential nature of Agreements between holders and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), we are unable to share maps containing detailed information about issued forest tenure areas. These maps, given their intricate content, fall under the purview of the Data Privacy Act.

Furthermore, it is pertinent to highlight that the processing of applications for forest tenure instruments and related procedures fall within the responsibility of the concerned DENR Regional and Field Offices, as per the guidelines set forth in DENR Administrative Order (DAO) No. 2022-10, entitled "Revised DENR Manual of Authorities on Technical Matters."

In light of these considerations, we recommend initiating a direct dialogue with the DENR Region 4B (MIMAROPA) Office, as your concerns are within their jurisdiction. Their Office possesses a shapefile containing the current status of the production and protection forests in Palawan which can substantially address your needs. The said Office may also provide technical assistance on reviewing your Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP) which is also integrated in the local development plans such as the Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP).

To initiate this, we advise sending a formal letter from your Office to the DENR Region 4B (MIMAROPA) Office, addressed to the OIC, Regional Executive Director Felix S. Mirasol, Jr., CESO IV.

I have also highlighted in our recent communication that proposed projects within Palawan's forested areas, including forest tenure instruments, requires obtaining a Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) clearance, issued by the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD). Thus, the probability of the PCSD retaining a comprehensive database of applications related to forest tenure instruments.

Thank you for your unwavering understanding and cooperation.

Regards,



FOR. ILDEFONSO L. QUILLOY Chief, Forest Resources Management Division

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