



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan
Telfax No. (048) 434 - 8791
Email Add: penropalawan@denr.gov.ph

ADVANCE ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING OF TRAINORS COURSE

DENR Palawan
September 26-29, 2023

I. INTRODUCTION

Palawan is blessed with crystal-clear waters, lush vegetation, and majestic tourist destinations spatially scattered all over the province, and in order to maintain them, environmental protection through the enforcement of environmental laws must be the first priority. Thus, our environmental law enforcers must have the required knowledge, training, abilities, and skills to perform all the delegated responsibilities for environmental protection and conservation initiatives for the populace.

Aside from the global COVID-19 Pandemic that is not totally eliminated and there are areas that have experienced it by the people, though it's now on declining trends, those above-mentioned God-given havens delighted with pristine resources are also slightly deformed and naturally altered due to the onslaught of typhoon Odette last December 17, 2021. Northern part of Palawan including the City of Puerto Princesa, Roxas, San Vicente and Taytay had been heavily devastated by the said typhoon and hopefully the regenerants will continue to recover – as also the same manifestation apparently observed in our tourism industry wherein tourists are starting to come in here in the province especially our local tourists.

If the environment is managed carefully, the tangible benefits that the province's citizens are currently enjoying may remain. This may be credited to the efforts made by all environmental law enforcement personnel in carrying out the ENR policies, laws, rules, and regulations. Environmental crime has been noted to occur automatically where development is taking place. Sometimes it is a complex phenomenon with many layers and dimensions. This complexity makes it challenging for governments and international organizations to identify the strengths and weaknesses of existing legislative, administrative, enforcement, judicial, and preventive systems, as well as areas where gaps exist. In order to achieve an effective response, environmental crime needs to be addressed through a coordinated and multisectoral approach for the continuous benefit provided by the environment and natural resources to all God-stewards of the earth.

Biodiversity is impacted by a variety of factors, including the decline or even extinction of species, damage to ecosystems, the eradication of several unique natural habitats, and the deprivation of populations in many countries of finite renewable resources. Many plant and animal species are threatened by wildlife, forest, and environmental criminality. The greater the monetary worth of

the remaining specimens of an endangered species, the greater the motivation for additional criminal activity. Because certain commerce in flora and fauna is allowed but some trade in specimens of the same species is prohibited, there are chances for fraud, money laundering, and corruption to be used to get around the appropriate laws and regulations.

Officers who have not received proper training may find it challenging to distinguish between specimens that can be transferred legally and those that cannot. Additionally, the illegal trafficking of wildlife, forests, or other natural resources harms the economies of several countries. The legal commerce in plants, plant material, wildlife, animal derivatives, and other lawful uses of natural resources reduces government revenue potential. This impairs their capacity to carry out development initiatives, reinforce the rule of law, and fulfill their commitments to gradually achieve social and economic rights. Wildlife and forest offenses have the potential to topple governments and jeopardize regional security when they are connected to organized crime, hostility, violence, corruption, or armed conflict.

Despite many indications that wildlife and forest crime is an increasingly profitable form of organized crime, it remains difficult, if not impossible, to estimate the true scale of the problem. Fauna and flora are heterogeneous specimens that are sourced, traded, and consumed for a wide variety of purposes, including food, fuel, construction, furniture, medicine, as collectible goods, and in the manufacture of other goods and services. Secondary wildlife and forest products are not produced to a uniform standard, and considerable price variation can therefore occur. This heterogeneity makes valuing the illegal trade in fauna and flora very challenging.

Moreover, the harm that wildlife, forest crime, and the loss of flora and fauna cause to the ecology and climate goes far beyond monetary value. Background wildlife and forest crime can significantly speed up the destruction of these resources, as well as important carbon sinks like forests and oceans, and can also lead to environmental deterioration such as deforestation and desertification. By enhancing the abilities of our environmental law enforcement officers and giving them the necessary resources, services, and technical assistance, they require to successfully battle crimes against animals, the environment, and forestry.

To ensure that enforcement staff at all levels are sufficiently taught and skilled to deal with the numerous difficulties and dangers related to battling wildlife and forest offenses as well as other environmental crimes, it is essential to implement an advanced training program for environmental law enforcers' trainers. It is possible that the integrity of the investigation, monitoring, and apprehensions may be compromised, which could have repercussions for subsequent prosecutions and trials if the alleged wildlife or forest offense is investigated by officers who are not sufficiently familiar with the relevant background, techniques, processes, and legal requirements. Therefore, all of the department's environmental law enforcers will greatly benefit from this suggested training.

II. WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

1. General Objective: In general, this training aims to train and capacitate the DENR Palawan (PENRO and CENRO) environmental law enforcers.
2. Specific Objectives: At the end of the training/discussion, the participants will be able to:
 - 2.1. Learn the Environmental Law Enforcement Protocols and Initiatives or Techniques: Basis for a proposed ELEPI/T Preparedness and Enforcement Plan;
 - 2.2. Learn the legal framework, explain the elements of the prohibited acts under existing environmental laws and their implementing rules and regulations;
 - 2.3. Species familiarization or wildlife identification and proper handling of wildlife that commonly traded in the province of Palawan;
 - 2.4. Explain the different forest permits [*Rattan-(Rattan Cutting Contract/Permit), Almaciga-(Tapping, Extraction and Collection Permit), Planted Trees-(Certification of Certifier Forester and Transport Permit), Charcoal-(Wood Charcoal Permit/Wood Charcoal Transport Permit), Private Lands-Naturally Grown Trees (Private Land Timber Permit/Special Private Land Timber Permit)*] or tenurial instruments (*FLAg, FLAgT, SLUP, FLA, MLA, GSUP, SIFMA, IFMA, CBFMA, CADT, CADC, FLGMA, FLAgOLP*) and other instruments issued by DENR and processes of forest trees and rattan inventory to be reflected on maps using (*5% sampling methods/density per hectare or area*), including the assessment and inventory of Almaciga Trees;
 - 2.5. Able to identify species during inventory (stand and stock table, etc.) and apprehensions, scaling, board feet computation, and volume computation using LOG VOLUME FORMULAS-for Cut/Felled Trees (*Huber's Formula, Smalian Formula, Newton's Formula and Government Formula*), and REGIONAL VOLUME EQUATION/COMPUTATION-for Standing Trees particularly per species group of Dipterocarp and Non-Dipterocarp that can be found in Western Visayas (*Region 6, 7 and Palawan*) that are most traded timber/lumber of forest tree species;
 - 2.6. Preparation of report, operational plan, issuance of apprehension receipt, scale sheet, notice of apprehension, temporary custody, turned-over receipt, seizure receipt and seizure order.
 - 2.7. Prepare criminal complaints and affidavits of key witnesses (apprehending officers, witness to the arrest/operations, joint affidavit of arrest photodocumentary certification and custodian officer);
 - 2.8. Prepare and identify ways to secure the different documents as attachments to the affidavits and explain the qualities of an effective witness in court for the prosecution;

2.9. Update, refresher, troubleshoot, and Installation of LAWIN application in every LAWIN Data Manager and Patrollers. Further, the SIBOL (*Sustainable Intervention for Biodiversity, Oceans and Landscape*) will present the introduction and usage of EarthRanger-is a software solution that aids protected area managers, ecologists, and wildlife biologists in making more informed operational decisions for wildlife conservation;

3.0. Improve knowledge on monitoring, surveillance, security, intelligence, and apprehension.

III. METHODOLOGY

Various methodologies shall be utilized to maximize the participant's learning experience such as lectures thru Power Point presentations guided by multimedia, group discussion, workshops, questions and answers, open forum and structured learning experiences.

IV. DURATION AND VENUE

The Trainers Training Course will be held on September 26-29, 2023 in Puerto Princesa City, Palawan.

V. PARTICIPANTS

The participants shall be composed of ten (10) participants per CENRO of the province composed of seven (7) participants as Team Leaders from MES, two (2) participants from Utilization Unit (Chief and Staff) and the Chief of the Enforcement and Monitoring Section and ten (10) participants from PENRO, all are from DENR Enforcement and Utilization Personnel.

VI. RESOURCE PERSONS

The following are the resource persons to the scheduled training, to wit:

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|----------------------------------|---|
| - General Reuel N Sorilla, (Ret) | Director, ELEPS |
| - _____ | LAWIN Personnel from FMB |
| - _____ | Utilization Expert from Regional Office |
| - _____ | Enforcement Expert from Regional Office |
| - Atty. Jazmin D. Altea | Legal Officer, PENRO Palawan |
| - Col Eulogio M Nabua, PAF | Chief, 4 th ARCEN, PAF |
| - Mr. Salvador L. Guion | Head, TSS of PWRCC |
| - LRs Representatives | DENR PENRO Palawan |
| - For. Arnel C. Gamutia | OIC MES, PENRO Palawan |
| - PCSDS Representatives | |
| - NCIP Representative | |
| - PNP Representative | |
| - BFAR Representative | |
| - SIBOL Representative | |

VII. BUDGETARY REQUIREMENT

The budgetary requirement for the conduct of this activity shall be sourced out from the Environmental Law Enforcement and Protection Service (ELEPS) fund to implement and defray the expenses for the air transportation back and forth-for three (3) ELEPS personnel, two (2) Regional Office personnel and one (1) FMB Personnel, venue, food and accommodation requirement of the training program. The PENRO MES and IEC Unit shall serve as the Facilitators and/or Training Event Team. For the activity, a total of Php400,000.00 is needed per training solely intended for selected personnels' air transportation, foods, supplies, materials and accommodation, and additional Php100,000.00 for the expense's operation against illegal ENR related activities with the detailed enumeration, to wit:

PARTICULARS	NO. OF DAYS	NO. OF PARTICIPANTS	COST	TOTAL (P)
A. Air transportation, accommodation, foods, supplies and materials	4	70	-	400,000.00
B. Monitoring and Surveillance Operations against Illegal ENR related activities	-	-	-	100,000.00
Grand Total	-	-	-	500,000.00

Prepared by:

ARNEL C. GAMUTIA
OIC, MES PENRO Palawan

Noted:

FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC
PENRO Palawan

Recommending Approval:

MAXIMO C. LANDRITO
OIC, ARD for Technical Services

Noted:

WAMALAYDA S. TALABUCON
PO III/OIC, MSD PENRO Palawan

Approved:

FELIX S. MIRASOL, JR.
OIC, Regional Executive Director