



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources

BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU

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MEMORANDUM

FOR : All DENR Regional Executive Directors

FROM : Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and concurrent OIC Director

SUBJECT : ASIAN WATERBIRD CENSUS (AWC) AND AWC 2024 PLANNING WORKSHOP

Please be informed that the conduct of the 2024 Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) is scheduled on January 6 to 21, 2024. These dates are for guidance only and counts from any date between December 2023 to February 2024 are welcome.

Pointers, guides, and forms for the AWC, including the site schedules, shall be made available on the BMB website at www.bmb.gov.ph. Please download, print, and distribute them to your counters. The Regional AWC coordinators are advised to engage personnel who are previously involved in AWC along with other volunteers. Geographic coordinates and digital maps should be provided by the counters per site along with the AWC report. Please do the count in the same sites that were visited in previous years and use the same site or locality name in reporting unless a prior decision has been made to stop visiting old sites. New sites may, however, be visited as necessary.

Also, please be reminded that the AWC 2024 results should be analyzed at the Regional Office level. Further, kindly provide BMB with advance copies of the AWC reports and data sheets through e-mail at wrld@bmb.gov.ph or wcs.wrld@gmail.com for consolidation in preparation for the online submission to Wetlands International. The official report should be transmitted to this Bureau no later than the end of April 2024.

Additionally, the Bureau is organizing a planning workshop in preparation for the conduct of the Asian Waterbird Census 2024. The planning workshop aims to review the current AWC protocols and bird-count methods including pointers/new guidelines for bird counting and discuss the mobilization of DENR field personnel and volunteers in the conduct of the AWC. The meeting workshop will be held on November 28-30, 2023 (inclusive of travel time) in Tagaytay, Cavite (exact venue to be determined). BMB shall cover the expenses for food and accommodation throughout the planning workshop, while transportation costs, per diem of participants, and any incidental expenses that might arise during the event shall be charged to their respective offices



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In line with this, this Bureau requests a representative from each Region, preferably the Regional AWC focal person / regional coordinator to participate in the planning workshop. To facilitate the creation of the DENR Special Order for this activity, kindly submit the name of your representative to this Bureau on or before **October 27, 2023** by filling out the Google Form through this link: <https://tinyurl.com/awc2024ph>.

For further queries, please contact Ms. Pola Geneva A. Bumanglag or Mr. John Berhel P. Doria of this Bureau through telephone no. (02) 8-925-8946 or email through wrд@bmb.gov.ph and/or wcs.wrd@gmail.com.

For information and consideration.

MARCIAL C. AMARO, JR. CESO II