



August 2, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** : The Community Environment and  
Natural Resource Officer

**FROM** : The Protected Area Superintendent  
El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area

**SUBJECT** : **DUGONG SIGHTINGS WITHIN EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE  
PROTECTED AREA (ENMRPA)**

This pertains to the Memorandum from the PENRO dated August 1, 2024 and immediately referred to by the CENRO per Memorandum dated August 2, 2024 regarding the above subject.

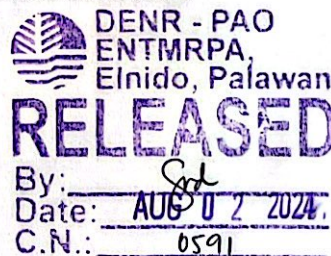
Please be informed that initial actions were immediately undertaken by ENMRPA PAMO regarding the Dugong sightings in our jurisdiction per submitted Memorandum dated August 1, 2024 from the PAMO staff and endorsed by the Officer In-Charge of the PAMO.

Further, as additional response on the incident at hand, the undersigned sent letters to Hon. Mayor Edna G. Lim, CG Jairene Lim of Philippine Coast Guard, and Ms. Elizabeth Panganiban of El Nido Pump Boat Owners and Operators Association (ENPOOA). Coordination with conservation partners, the Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI) and Ms. Mariglo Laririt of Ten Knots Philippines Inc. (TKPI) was also done and an Action Plan was crafted as a result of the coordination. The undersigned also issued Memorandum instruction to the ENMRPA Park Rangers with team to be led by Assistant PASu to investigate and gather relevant data and information and with specific directive to submit investigation report by 3:00PM today.

The undersigned will closely monitor actions taken by our Park Rangers and immediately inform the RED, PENRO and CENRO of anything important that would come up on this specific instruction.

Copy of the Memorandum from PAMO staff, letters for LGU, PCG and boat operators, the Action Plan and Memorandum instruction for the Park Rangers are attached for reference.

For information and further instruction.



*[Signature]*  
**MILDRED A. SUZA**

Copy furnished:  
The Regional Executive Director, DENR MIMAROPA  
The PENRO Palawan  
The CENRO Taytay, Palawan  
File



AUG 01 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer  
Taytay, Palawan

**FROM :** The Protected Area Superintendent  
El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area

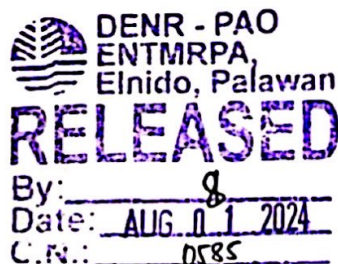
**SUBJECT :** **REPORT ON THE COORDINATION TO STAKEHOLDERS RE: DUGONG SIGHTINGS IN EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA (ENMRPA), EL NIDO, PALAWAN**

Respectfully forwarded is the report of Planning Officer I Faith D. Bangalisan and Park Ranger Efriel Dalabajan regarding the above subject.

In the report, the Local Government of El Nido-Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)-El Nido Station and El Nido Pumpboat Owners and Operators Association (ENPOOA) are willing to participants in crafting a policy for conservation and protection of dugong and other marine species.

This office will strengthen the monitoring, enforcement and will schedule the crafting of policy/ regulations.

For information further instruction.



For and in the absence of the  
Park Operations Superintendent V:

**JENUEL P. CASEL**  
In-charge, PAO-ENMRPA





Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
Community Environment and Natural Resources Office  
**EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA**  
Calle Real, Bgy. Masagana, El Nido, Palawan 5313  
Landline No. 048-716-0674  
Email: entmrpa@gmail.com



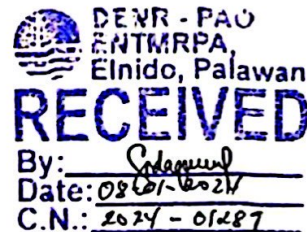
August 1, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The Protected Area Superintendent  
El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area

**FROM :** ENMRPA PAMO Staff  
El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area

**SUBJECT :** **REPORT ON THE COORDINATION TO STAKEHOLDERS RE:  
DUGONG SIGHTINGS IN EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE  
PROTECTED AREA (ENMRPA), EL NIDO, PALAWAN**



In compliance to the instruction of POSu Mildred A. Suza on the above subject, the undersigned conducted coordination to the Local Government of El Nido-Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office (MENRO), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG)-El Nido Station and El Nido Pumpboat Owners and Operators Association (ENPOOA).

Below are the highlights of discussions and recommendations per stakeholders;

NO.	STAKEHOLDERS	DISCUSSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS	REMARKS
	Ms. Merriam Arzaga MENRO staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No policy re: speed limit of boat</li></ul> <p>Barangay's where the dugong are sighted</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Bgy. Buena Suerte;</li><li>Bgy. Masagana;</li><li>Sitio Lamoro-Cagbatang, Bgy. Pasadeña;</li><li>Bgy. Corongcorong;</li><li>Bgy. Bebeladan; and,</li><li>Lalutaya Island, Bgy. Bucana</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Designate zones where the dugong is frequent for protection;</li><li>Involve the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD);</li><li>Conduct Information, Education and Communication Campaign;</li><li>Strengthen enforcement</li></ul>	They are willing to participants in crafting a policy
	PCG-El Nido Station staff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No policy re: speed limit of boat</li></ul>		They are willing to participants in crafting a policy
	Ms. Elizabeth Panganiban ENPOOA President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No policy re: speed limit of boat however, boat operators will stop once they see a dugong, pawikan or any object</li></ul>		Coordinated thru phone call and they are willing to participants in crafting a policy

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reminders to boat operators on this matter will be forwarded to their group chat for further information</li> </ul>		
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Be informed further, that the undersigned disseminated to ENMRPA PAMO park ranger the instruction to deploy immediately for more monitoring.

For information and further instruction.

  
**EFRIEL DALABAJAN**  
 Park Ranger

  
**FAITH D. BANGALISAN**  
 Planning Officer I



## PHOTO DOCUMENTATIONS



## CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the above photos are true and correct and taken during the coordination to stakeholders on August 1, 2024.

  
**EFRIEL DALABAJAN**  
Park Ranger





August 2, 2024

Hon. EDNA GACOT-LIM  
Municipal Mayor  
El Nido, Palawan

Dear Mayor Lim,

Greetings!

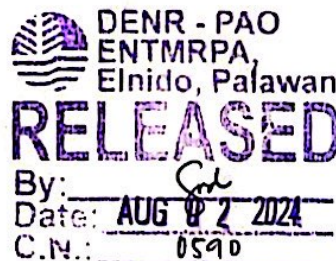
This is in line with the recent sightings of Dugong within El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area (ENMRPA). Please be informed that this Office had initially coordinated with your office as well as with Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and El Nido Pump Boats Owners and Operators Association (ENPOOA) regarding the presence of this marine mammal in our area.

ENMRPA being a protected area by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 32 dated October 8, 1998, is a habitat to various marine wildlife which plays important role in our ecosystem. The abundant seagrass surrounding the coastal waters serves as home for Dugong and countless marine species, one of the very reasons why our municipality was declared a protected area.

As part of our mandate, this office is collaborating with other stakeholders and partners to assist us in our campaign to disseminate the important information that El Nido is a protected area. In this regard, we enjoin the Local Government Unit thru your leadership to continue supporting the Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) in our campaign in the protection and conservation, by giving Orders and policies to sustain the natural resources including flora and fauna as well as the land and waters, and its aesthetic value where the economy of the municipality primarily revolves around.

With the recent sightings of Dugong, let us continue to work together for the protection of this marine mammal as it is listed as *vulnerable* on the IUCN Red List for its declining population due to various causes including anthropogenic factors. Our Office will continue to communicate with you and other major players in the tourism industry for collaborative action together with the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB). In our PAMB meeting on August 6, 2024, we will enumerate activities and make a concrete plan of action for this particular concern.

Thank you for your support and cooperation.



Sincerely,

MILDRED A. SUZA  
Protected Area Superintendent

Copy furnished:  
The Regional Executive Director, DENR MIMAROPA  
The PENRO, Palawan  
The CLC, Tubbataha, Palawan  
File



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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
Protected Area Management Office  
EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA  
El Nido, Palawan  
Email add: [entmrpa@gmail.com](mailto:entmrpa@gmail.com)



August 2, 2024

**CG ENS JAIRENE B. LIM**  
Station Commander  
Philippine Coast Guard  
El Nido, Palawan

Dear CG Lim,

Greetings!

This is in line with the recent sightings of Dugong within El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area (ENMRPA). Please be informed that this Office had initially coordinated with your office as well as with Local Government Unit and El Nido Pump Boats Owners and Operators Association (ENPOOA) regarding the presence of this marine mammal in our area.

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Thank you for your support and cooperation.

DENR - PAO  
ENTMRPA,  
El Nido, Palawan  
**RELEASED**  
By: *[Signature]*  
Date: AUG 02 2024  
C.N.: 0590

Sincerely,

*[Signature]*  
**MILDRED A. SUZA**  
Protected Area Superintendent

Copy furnished:  
The Regional Executive Director, DENR MIMAROPA  
The PENPO, Palawan  
The CENRO, Taytay, Palawan  
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Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
Protected Area Management Office  
EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA  
El Nido, Palawan  
Email add: [entmrpa@gmail.com](mailto:entmrpa@gmail.com)



BAGONG PILIPINAS

August 2, 2024

**Ms. ELIZABETH PANGANIBAN**  
President, ENPOOA  
El Nido, Palawan

Dear Ms. Panganiban,

Greetings!



This is in line with the recent sightings of Dugong within El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area (ENMRPA). Please be informed that this Office had initially coordinated with your office as well as with Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and Local Government Unit (LGU) regarding the presence of this marine mammal in our area.

ENMRPA being a protected area by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 32 dated October 8, 1998, is a habitat to various marine wildlife which plays important role in our ecosystem. The abundant seagrass surrounding the coastal waters serves as home for Dugong and countless marine species, one of the very reasons why our municipality was declared a protected area.


As part of our mandate, this office is collaborating with other stakeholders and partners to assist us in our campaign to disseminate the important information that El Nido is a protected area. In this regard, we enjoin your association thru your leadership to continue supporting the Protected Area Management Office (PAMO) in our campaign in the protection and conservation, by creating internal policies to pertaining to mindful boat operations and activities within the protected area.

With the recent sightings of Dugong, let us continue to work together for the protection of this marine mammal as it is listed as *vulnerable* on the IUCN Red List for its declining population due to various causes including anthropogenic factors. Our Office will continue to communicate with you and other major players in the tourism industry for collaborative action together with the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB).

We are hoping for your support and cooperation. Thank you.

 **DENR - PAO**  
**ENTMRPA,**  
**El Nido, Palawan**  
**RELEASED**  
By:   
Date: AUG 2 2024  
C.N.: 0570

Sincerely,

  
**MILDRED A. SUZA**  
Protected Area Superintendent

Copy furnished:  
The Regional Executive Director, DENR MIMAROPA  
The PENRO, Palawan  
The PENRO, Taita, Palawan  
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




### ACTION PLAN ON DUGONG SIGHTINGS WITHIN ENMRPA

Activities	Time Frame	Responsible Person/Office
1. PAMB crafting of policies on recommended speed limit and determination of areas for specific boat activities	August 6, 2024	ENMRPA PAMO and PAMB
2. Reactivation/Strengthening of Bantay MPA and volunteers	August 12-16, 2024	ENMRPA PAMO, BLGU of Masagana, MENRO and DA
3. Consultation meetings and planning with stakeholders	August 12-16, 2024	ENMRPA PAMO, Malampaya Foundation Inc. (MFI), Ten Knot Phils. Inc. (TKPI)
4. Collaboration with PCG, PCGA, Joint Task Force Malampaya (JTFM) and Navy and other enforcement partners	August 19-23, 2024	ENMRPA PAMO, MFI, TKPI, LGU
5. Installation of marking buoys for Masagana MPA and other MPAs within ENMRPA	August 30, 2024	BLGU of Masagana, El Nido, Palawan and volunteers
6. Designation of buffer in the marine area of ENMRPA as part of the PA Management Plan	November 15, 2024	ENMRPA PAMO, PAMB, MFI
7. Strengthening of sea borne patrol and monitoring within ENMRPA	Regular activities	ENMRPA PAMO

Prepared by:

  
**MILDRED A. SUZA**  
Protected Area Superintendent



August 2, 2024

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO :** All Park Rangers  
El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area

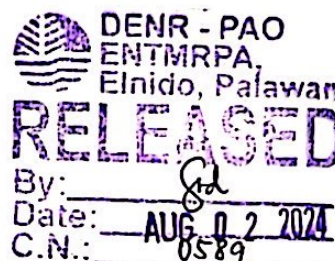
**FROM :** The Protected Area Superintendent

**SUBJECT :** **DUGONG SIGHTINGS WITHIN EL NIDO MANAGED RESOURCE PROTECTED AREA (ENMRPA)**

In line with the urgent instructions from the Regional Executive Director regarding the Dugong sightings in our area of jurisdiction, the El Nido Managed Resource Protected Area (ENMRPA), ALL Park Rangers and lagoon marshals hereby directed to intensify sea borne patrolling and conduct diligent observations in our marine areas to detect marine mammals as well as all the marine resources we are protecting. Immediately inform our CMEMP Extension Officer, Mariel Paladan if there are observation for the preparation of spot report.

In this regard, the Assistant Protected Area Superintendent (APASu) will lead the team and the following ENMRPA Park Rangers will provide assistance on the conduct of investigation and gathering of relevant information such as location and other data pertaining to the recent Dugong sightings, to wit:

1. PR Bret Hart Sanogal- Assistant Team Leader
2. PR Von Kier Timbancaya
3. PR Ryan Cacacha
4. PR Earl Xavier Rabulan
5. PR Manuelito Jongay



You may use our resources to immediately act on the above concern. The PENRO is expecting an investigation report with recommendations from us within 24 hours. Let us submit our updated report by 3:00PM today to cover all instructions from the Memorandum of the PENRO and CENRO. Refer to the report from Faith Bangalisan to strategize with our coordinated actions.

For immediate and strict compliance.

*[Signature]*  
**MILDRED A. SUZA**

Copy furnished:  
The Regional Executive Director, DENR MIMAROPA  
The PENRO Palawan  
The CENRO Taytay, Palawan  
File