

TAMARAW

Conservation and Management Action Plan 2021-2030



Acknowledgements

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CONTENT

Content.....	ii
List of Tables.....	iv
List of Figures.....	v
Acronyms and Abbreviations.....	vii
Executive Summary.....	1
Challenges to Tamaraw Recovery and Conservation	2
Priorities for Indigenous Peoples (IPs)	3
Implementation	3
Research.....	3
Philippine Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (PBSAP) 2015 – 2028	3
Strategy for the Tamaraw Meta-population	3
Summary of Major Activities and Timelines, 2021-2030	5
Status Review.....	8
Introduction	8
Ecology and Behaviour	8
Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park.....	9
Upper Amnay Watershed Region	10
Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation	11
Current and Historic Threats.....	12
Conservation Initiatives	13
Tamaraw Population Viability Analysis	15
Summary	15
Introduction	16
Baseline Model	16
Threats	18
Site-based Scenarios	23
Mounts Iglit-Baco.....	23
Upper Amnay Watershed Region	24
Aruyan Malati	24
Mount Calavite.....	25
Captive Breeding.....	26
Initiating New Populations.....	26
Conservation Management and Action Plan 2021 - 2030	31
Introduction	31

2050 Vision for Tamaraw	31
Obstacles to Recovery and Conservation.....	33
Tamaraw Meta-population Management.....	34
Introduction	34
Expanding and Connecting the Meta-population	34
Monitoring the Meta-population.....	34
Implementation	35
Working Adaptively.....	35
Meta-population Management Recommendations	35
Goals for Meta-population Management	37
Goals, Sub-goals and Recommended Actions: Meta-population Management	38
Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park.....	43
Introduction	43
Goals for Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park	44
Goals, Sub-goals and Recommended Actions: Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park.....	45
Upper Amnay Watershed Region	62
Introduction	62
Goals for Upper Amnay Watershed Region	63
Goals, Sub-goals and Recommended Actions: Upper Amnay Watershed Region	64
Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation	70
Introduction	70
Goals for Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation	71
Goals, Sub-goals and Recommended Actions: Aruyan Malati Tamaraw Reservation	72
Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary	78
Introduction	78
Goals for Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary	79
Monitoring and Updating of the Plan	84
References	85
Appendix I. Maps	87
Partners	89

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.	Summary of current population size estimates, including estimates for 2050 without further conservation action, estimates for 2028 and 2050 with recommended action, and the major challenges to achieving these results	1 - 2, 37
Table 2.	Summary of Tamaraw population estimates from 1987, 1996 to 2018. Modified from Long <i>et al.</i> 2018)	8
Table 3.	Deterministic characteristics of the baseline model	17
Table 4.	Impact of probabilistic factors on performance in the three baseline models	17
Table 5.	Impact of starting population size on 100-year extinction risk with and without the ability for population growth	19
Table 6.	Comparison between 1996 and 2018 baselines model parameters	29 - 30

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.	Tamaraw population estimates in MIBNP from 2000 to 2021 using the Simultaneous Multi-Vantage Point Count	2
Figure 2.	The distribution of Tamaraw within the Core Zone of Monitoring in Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park, Mindoro, between the late 1990s and 2017, and showing different management zones (from Long <i>et al.</i> 2018)	9
Figure 3.	Location and possible range of the Tamaraw population of the Upper Amnay Watershed Region, Mindoro (from Long <i>et al.</i> 2018)	10
Figure 4.	Location and range of the Tamaraw population in the Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation Area, Occidental Mindoro (from Long <i>et al.</i> 2018)	11
Figure 5.	Graph of deterministic growth (left) showing skew towards adult females	17
Figure 6.	Graph of population age-structure (right), showing skew towards adult females	17
Figure 7.	Result of sensitivity testing of the baseline models	18
Figure 8.	Mean population size over time for Tamaraw models initiated with between 5 and 100 individuals and unable to grow	20
Figure 9.	Mean population size over time for Tamaraw models initiated with between 5 and 100 individuals and able to grow	20
Figure 10.	Impact of mean poaching rates of 2, 4 and 8 individuals per year, on a population of 100 Tamaraw, over 100 years	21
Figure 11.	Impact of frequency on the impact of a hypothetical disease which, when it occurs, increases mortality by 50%	22
Figure 12.	Impact of disease severity on mean population size and extinction risk, for a population of 50 individuals, and a hypothetical disease with a 15% likelihood of occurrence	22
Figure 13.	Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park in the presence of poaching	23
Figure 14.	Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Upper Amnay Watershed Region, in the presence of poaching	24
Figure 15.	Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Aruyan-Malati in the presence of poaching	25

Figure 16.	Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary. No poaching is included	25
Figure 17.	Expected harvesting potential of a hypothetical Tamaraw captive program under varied reproductive success	26
Figure 18.	Impact of release site poaching intensity on minimum number of animals needed to establish a new population of Tamaraw	27
Figure 19.	Impact of founding sex-ratio skew on the subsequent growth of a release cohort of 16 Tamaraw	27
Figure 20.	Known, assumed and potential challenges to the recovery and conservation of Tamaraw identified by participants at the 2018 Tamaraw PHVA workshop	33
Figure 21.	Mindoro Island - current Tamaraw distribution and targeted species range in year 2050	36
Figure 22.	Illustrates the proposed expansion and managed movement of the MIBNP Tamaraw population	44
Figure 23.	Upper Amnay Watershed Region showing estimated Tamaraw range as of September 2018	63
Figure 24.	Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw range in 1990s and 2018	71
Figure 25.	Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary showing the area where Tamaraw presence was confirmed in 2019	78

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

ADSDPP	Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development and Protection Plan
AMTR	Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation
AWCSG	IUCN SSC Asian Wild Cattle Specialist Group
BIOFIN	Biodiversity Finance Initiative
BLGU	Barangay Local Government Unit
BTCC	Barangay Tamaraw Conservation Council
BMB	Biodiversity Management Bureau
CADT	Certificate of Ancestral Domain Title
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CCI	Centre for Conservation Innovation
CCTU	Center for Conservation of Tropical Ungulates
CENRO	Community Environment & Natural Resources Office
CPSG	IUCN SSC Conservation Planning Specialist Group
CR	Critically Endangered
DA	Department of Agriculture
DAF	D'Aboville Foundation and Demo Farm Inc.
DENR	Department of Environment & Natural Resources
DOST	Department of Science and Technology
DOT	Department of Tourism
DPWH	Department of Public Works and Highways
ENIPAS	Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System
ERDB	Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
FPIC	Free and Prior Informed Consent
GWC	Global Wildlife Conservation
IAS	Invasive Alien Species
ICCA	Indigenous and Communities Conserved Areas
IEC	Information Education and Communication Campaign
IPMR	Indigenous Peoples Mandatory Representation
IPs	Indigenous Peoples
IPRA	Indigenous People's Rights Act
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature
KMFI	Kalikasan Mindoro Foundation, Inc.
LCA	Local Conservation Areas
LGU	Local Government Unit
MBCFI	Mindoro Biodiversity Conservation Foundation Inc.
MCWS	Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary
MENRO	Municipal Environment and Natural Resources Office
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement

MIBNP	Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park
MIMAROPA	Administrative region comprising: M indoro (divided into Occidental Mindoro and Oriental Mindoro), M arinduque, R omblon and P alawan
MPDO	Municipal Planning and Development Office
MUZ	Multiple Use Zone
NCIP	National Commission for Indigenous Peoples
NEDA	National Economic and Development Authority
NGO	Non-Government Organization
NIPAS	National Integrated Protected Areas System
OECD	Other Effective Area-Based Conservation Measures
OMSC	Occidental Mindoro State College
PA	Protected Area
PAMP	Protected Area Management Plan
PAMB	Protected Area Management Board
PAMO	Protected Area Management Office
PGOM	Provincial Government of Occidental Mindoro
PNP	Philippine National Police
PPDO	Provincial Planning and Development Office
PASu	Protected Area Superintendent
PCC	Philippine Carabao Center
PENRO	Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
PHVA	Population and Habitat Viability Assessment
PLGU	Provincial Local Government Unit
PVA	Population Viability Analysis
SAR	Search and Rescue
SMART	Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SPPF	Sablayan Prison and Penal Farm
SPZ	Strict Protection Zone
SSC	Species Survival Commission (of IUCN)
TBC	To be confirmed
TCP	Tamaraw Conservation Program
TCPO	Tamaraw Conservation Program Office
TCRC	Tamaraw Conservation Research Center
TESDA	Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
TCMAP	Tamaraw Conservation and Management Action Plan
TWG	Technical Working Group
WEO	Wildlife Enforcement Officer
WWF-Phil.	Worldwide Fund for Nature – Philippines
WRS	Wildlife Reserves Singapore
ZSL	Zoological Society of London

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*) is a dwarf buffalo endemic to the island of Mindoro in the Philippines. The species is classified as Critically Endangered under DENR Administrative Order No. 2019-09¹ and on the IUCN Red List of Threatened SpeciesTM. In 1996, the Philippines hosted a Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) for Tamaraw providing guidance to the Tamaraw Conservation Program of the DENR, which led to positive results for the species especially in Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP). Some of the positive results of the 1996 PHVA workshop include the: 1) formulated monitoring method, the Simultaneous Multi-Vantage Point Count (SMVPC), which is being used to monitor Tamaraw population in MIBNP since year 2000; 2) created *Bantay Tamaraw Teams* (BTT) that intensified law enforcement in MIBNP and Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation; 3) discovered other Tamaraw habitats (e.g. Upper Amnay, MCWS) on Mindoro Island aside from MIBNP and Aruyan-Malati through verification surveys; 4) introduced the Swine and Goat Production and Dispersal Program as part of the Community Assistance Program (CAP) formulated during the 1996 workshop; and 5) maintained and conducted regular *dalaw turo* to communities as part Information, Education, Communication (IEC) campaign on Tamaraw. The 2018 Tamaraw Conservation Planning Workshop was the second PHVA to be held for the species and was organized with the aim of replicating these successes at other sites across Mindoro.

Over the last century, Tamaraw numbers have declined from thousands to just a few hundreds. While in 1987, the species was still present at seven sites, recent studies have confirmed its presence in only four: MIBNP (N=400-500), Upper Amnay Watershed Region (N=10-60), Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation (N=3-15), and Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary (MCWS) where a recent survey confirmed presence of an estimated 4-6 individuals.

Without urgent action, Tamaraws are likely to disappear from Aruyan-Malati and MCWS in the short-term while the future for the population in Upper Amnay is uncertain without interventions. Focused conservation attention in the past two decades has led to growth of the MIBNP population with estimated mean average annual growth of 8% mainly based on the probability of detection using the SMVPC (see Figure 1 for the estimated population from 2000 to 2021), however even here, the space occupied by Tamaraw appears to have contracted in the past 30 years and without additional action its future is not secure. For the long-term security of the species, the Mts. Iglit-Baco population must be protected from poaching and managed in a way that will maximize population growth, so that it can provide a source of Tamaraw to supplement existing sites (such as Aruyan-Malati or MCWS) or to establish new ones.

Table 1. Summary of current population size estimates, including estimates for 2050 without further conservation action, estimates for 2028 and 2050 with recommended action, and the major challenges to achieving these results.

	Current size	Future: no further action	Future: with recommended action		Major challenges (confirmed at the 2018 workshop)
Site	2018	2050	2028	2050	
Mts. Iglit-Baco NP	400 – 500	< 400	> 650 ²	> 1500	Space for further growth is now limited and may decline in future due to impact of fires and invasive plants and uncontrolled hunting from residing IP communities.

¹ The DENR Administrative Order establishing the List of Terrestrial Threatened Species and Their Categories, and the List of Other Wildlife Species pursuant to Republic Act 9147 otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001.

² Based on an ongoing but conservative growth rate (4% p.a.) from the mean of current estimates (N=450).

Table 1. Summary of current population size estimates, including estimates for 2050 without further conservation action, estimates for 2028 and 2050 with recommended action, and the major challenges to achieving these results.

	Current size	Future: no further action	Future: with recommended action		Major challenges (confirmed at the 2018 workshop)
Site	2018	2050	2028	2050	
Upper Amnay	10 – 60	Uncertain	20 - 120 ³	Preliminary estimates suggest > 700 in total across these sites	Road development and resumption of mining could prevent population recovery. Current uncertainty about numbers, distribution and hunting intensity may hinder action.
Aruyan Malati	3-15	Poor			Too few animals. Little to no chance of recovery without supplementation.
Mount Calavite	4 – 6	Poor			Too few animals, if any. No chance of recovery without supplementation.
Total estimates	417-581		>700	>2200	

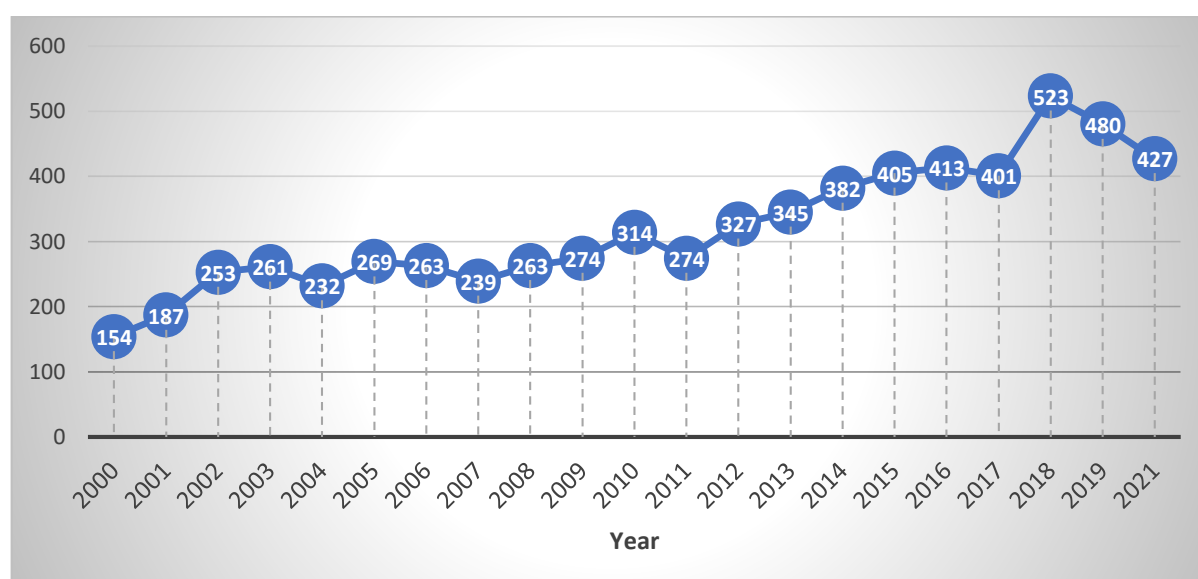


Figure 1. Tamaraw population estimates in MIBNP from 2000 to 2021 using the Simultaneous Multi-Vantage Point Count

CHALLENGES TO TAMARAW RECOVERY AND CONSERVATION

Challenges to successful recovery and conservation of Tamaraw were identified under five broad themes: 1) Illegal activities; 2) Land-tenure and natural resource management issues; 3) Coordination with stakeholders; 4) Development planning; and 5) Small population-related issues. The nature and extent of these challenges vary among remaining populations of Tamaraw and require site-specific solutions.

³ Based on ongoing but conservative growth rate (4% p.a.) from the range of current estimates (N= 17 – 81)

PRIORITIES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (IPS)

The future of the Tamaraw is inextricably linked to the way IPs will socially and culturally assimilate and manage the progressive modernizing trends and environmental issues that they are facing today. They are key partners in the TCMAP. The challenges ahead for the growing IP communities, in which long-standing traditional values and ways of life must be supported alongside these modernizing trends. Tamaraw conservation success will depend on managing the natural landscapes of Mindoro to allow sufficient space for Tamaraw and to ensure food security and social determination of residing IP communities.

IMPLEMENTATION

The establishment and empowerment of an effective coordinating body (Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council or TC3) was strongly recommended, along with the alignment of existing plans with the TCMAP. Of these, the **Management Plan for MIBNP and MCWS** are of particular importance.

RESEARCH

Research is an important component of the TCMAP. To give the Tamaraw the best chance of recovery, it is recommended that academic institutions and NGOs, with interest in Tamaraw, to channel their efforts into the research priorities identified in the TCMAP.

PHILIPPINE BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN (PBSAP) 2015 – 2028

The PBSAP integrates the Philippines' obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectoral planning frameworks. Implementation of the TCMAP would make a significant contribution to the PBSAP Target 1: "By 2028, the conservation status of nationally and globally threatened species in the country from 2016 levels is maintained or improved", and would also contribute to Targets 2, 7, 9-11, 14 and 19.

STRATEGY FOR THE TAMARAW META-POPULATION

The following strategies for ensuring a thriving Tamaraw Meta-population could take the current total Tamaraw numbers from **N > 500**, to **N > 700 by 2028**, and to **N > 2200 by 2050**.

1) Increase space for Tamaraw in MIBNP by:

- a. expanding the existing area available to Tamaraw, through increased protection and habitat restoration;
- b. opening up a "**Migration Corridor**" which links the "**Core Zone of Monitoring**" to a larger and more remote "**Expansion Area**" of suitable habitat;
- c. rehabilitating a "**Cattle Ranchland Area**" outside the "Core Zone of Monitoring", by: removing existing cattle ranchers [all of whom either with no permit/tenure instrument ever issued or with expired Forest Land Grazing Management Agreement (FLGMA), the renewal of which shall no longer be allowed as it is inconsistent with the purpose of the protected area category of MIBNP as a "natural park" under RA 7586 as amended by RA 11038]; implementing livelihood projects for *Buhid-Bangon* families currently reliant on cattle ranching in that area; restoring the land; and translocating Tamaraw into it;
- d. updating and enforcing *Tau-Buid* and *Buhid-Bangon*-designed customary laws and developing and sustaining land-use systems and traditional practices that are aligned with the TCMAP (using the ADSDPP and PAMP mechanisms); and
- e. reducing illegal hunting pressure from lowlanders and IPs through strict law enforcement in collaboration with concerned local government units, among other possible measures.

2) Support growth in the Upper Amnay population by:

- a. surveying the number and distribution of Tamaraw;
- b. increasing monitoring and protection, initially through a composite team of TCP rangers and local IP volunteers from the *Alangan* Tribe (the *Katutubong Bantay Tamaraw*);
- c. reconciling the interprovincial cross-road project's economic objectives with social and environmental safeguards;
- d. with IP stakeholders, formulating and incorporating into the ADSDPP a comprehensive area management plan for the upland forest, both to protect the head water of the two concerned watersheds and key Tamaraw habitat; and
- e. engaging Mangyan *Alangan* community members as collaborators within a mixed monitoring and protection team.

3) Re-establish Aruyan-Malati as a Tamaraw site by:

- a. declaring the Aruyan-Malati as Critical Habitat for Tamaraw;
- b. formulating and implementing a Critical Habitat Management Plan;
- c. integrating agro-forestry farming technology with the current farming practices of the *Tau Buid*;
- d. training and deploying sufficient rangers; and
- e. translocating Tamaraw from suitable sources, to be identified through a feasibility study of appropriate options.

4) Re-establish Mount Calavite and/or other potential Tamaraw sites through:

- a. surveying to establish:
 - i. presence/abundance and distribution of Tamaraw;
 - ii. core zones and areas of suitable habitat;
 - iii. location of land used for farming;
- b. formulating, through a stakeholders' participatory approach, and implementation of community-based resource management and conservation plans:
 - i. protection against illegal logging and poaching;
 - ii. sustainable livelihoods compatible with traditional ways of life;
- c. integrating Tamaraw conservation and protection into the Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary Management Plan; and
- d. translocating Tamaraw from suitable sources, to be identified through a feasibility study of appropriate options.

BOX 1. Immediate Priorities for the Tamaraw Meta-population:

- 1. Establish and empower a TCMAP coordinating body
- 2. Review and reconcile existing plans with the TCMAP
- 3. Train, equip and deploy sufficient rangers at remaining Tamaraw sites
- 4. Review and improve the current Tamaraw population monitoring method at MIBNP and implement site appropriate monitoring methods meta-population wide
- 5. Pursue the removal of ranchers from MIBNP
- 6. Address the potential impact of road development at Upper Amnay
- 7. Declare Aruyan-Malati as Critical Habitat for Tamaraw
- 8. Undertake a scientific survey at Mount Calavite
- 9. Conduct a feasibility study on the potential of re-establishing a captive breeding program for the Tamaraw
- 10. Conduct a feasibility study on Tamaraw translocation, including the potential sources of Tamaraw for supplementation of sites
- 11. Develop a Tamaraw translocation program to facilitate recovery of the species
- 12. Secure resources and political will for the Tamaraw meta-population
- 13. Identify additional areas of potentially suitable habitat taking into consideration the carrying capacity of these areas, for inclusion in the Tamaraw meta-population

Successful implementation of these strategies are contingent on successful resolution of issues related to land tenure and use, ongoing consultation and engagement with stakeholder agencies and communities, installing and enforcing a sufficient level of protection for Tamaraw and its habitats, and on generating sufficient resources and political support to proceed. A summary of major activities and timelines for this strategy are shown below and full details are included in the sections that follow.

SUMMARY OF MAJOR ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES, 2021-2030

Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Coordination & Communication										
1) Establishment of an effective coordinating body and mechanisms to ensure adequate conservation action.										
2) Alignment with the TCMAP of existing plans of stakeholder agencies and harmonization of the development and communication of any new plans.										
3) Intensification of Information, Education and Communication campaigns, with consistent messages to IPs, civil society organisations and the general public, to proactively support action and behavioural change for Tamaraw.										
Meta-population Management										
4) Review and improvement of current population monitoring methods and establishment of meta-population wide reporting on key parameters to support effective management.										
5) Confirmation of the locations of all remaining Tamaraw.										
6) Securing adequate resources and political will.										
7) Implementation of strategies to maximize the capacity of existing sites.										
8) If agreed to be needed, establishment of an <i>ex situ</i> conservation breeding program for Tamaraw in Mindoro.										
9) Initiation of a Tamaraw translocation program to facilitate recovery of the species.										
10) Mobilization for Tamaraw of additional, previously unconsidered sites in Mindoro.										
MIBNP-Core Zone of Monitoring (connects to Migration Corridor)										
11) Phasing out of burning.										
12) Harmonization of ADSDPP and TCMAP (through PAMP).										
13) Strengthening of ranger force to prevent illegal activities.										

Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
14) Control of invasive plants and habitat restoration.										
15) Consultation throughout of IPS and respect for their traditional ways of life.										
MIBNP – Migration Corridor (connects to Expansion Area)										
16) Agreement with IPs on a plan to expand the distribution of Tamaraw following the zonation of the Park.										
17) Following consultation with residing communities, validation of the proposed expansion area and delineation on the ground, with IPs.										
18) Definition of the modality of the management of the Migration Corridor.										
19) Habitat restoration.										
MIBNP – Ranchland Area (connects to Expansion Area)										
20) Phasing out of ranching (ensuring appropriate support for affected IP families).										
21) Rehabilitation of the Ranchland Area.										
22) Planning and implementation of Tamaraw translocation.										
Upper Amnay Watershed Region										
23) Avoidance or mitigation of negative impacts of road development (interprovincial cross-road).										
24) Comprehensive assessment of the Tamaraw population and habitat in Upper Amnay municipalities of: Sablayan, Victoria and Baco.										
25) Establishment of area protection measures (Declaration as Amnay-IP Tamaraw Habitat – ICCA, LCA, or OECM).										
26) Increased number of skilled and well-equipped rangers and volunteers, to address anthropogenic threats such as poaching, logging, and habitat encroachment.										
Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation										
27) Reinforcement of traditional farming education with integrated farming, to regulate <i>kaingin</i> areas.										
28) Declaration of the Aruyan-Malati as Critical Habitat for the Tamaraw.										
29) Effective management of the Critical Habitat is established to secure Tamaraw habitat.										

Activity	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
30) The number of skilled and well-equipped rangers and volunteers is increased, to address anthropogenic threats such as poaching, logging, and habitat encroachment.										
31) Restoration and expansion of natural forest within the Tamaraw habitat, to reduce the presence of invasive species.										
32) Supplementation of Tamaraw population growth towards viable numbers, from sources identified through a feasibility study of available options, and with full agreement among stakeholders.										
Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary										
33) Establishment through surveys, of presence/abundance and distribution of Tamaraw, core zones and areas of suitable habitat, and location of land used for farming.										
34) In consultation with affected IPs, zoning within the PA is updated to include areas suitable as Tamaraw habitat within the Strict Protection Zone.										
35) Agreement and implementation of community-based resource management and conservation plans for: protection against illegal logging and poaching; and for sustainable livelihoods compatible with traditional ways of life.										
36) Translocation of Tamaraw from suitable sources based on a feasibility study of available options.										

STATUS REVIEW

INTRODUCTION

The Tamaraw (*Bubalus mindorensis*) is a dwarf buffalo species, endemic to the island of Mindoro in the Philippines. Historically, Tamaraws are thought to have been present across the entire island, from sea level up to around 2,000 meters above sea level (masl) in a range of habitats including secondary forest and grassland (Custodio, et.al. 1996). By 1969, however, Tamaraws were reduced to an estimated one hundred (100) individuals (Harrisson 1969). Recent surveys undertaken by the DENR through its TCP indicates the presence of about 600 individuals of Tamaraw in four areas (Table 2).

Table 2. Summary of Tamaraw population estimates from 1987, 1996 to 2018. Modified from Long *et al.* 2018)

Site	Year of population estimate		
	1987 ¹	1996 ²	2018 ³
Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park	145	175	400-500
Upper Amnay Watershed Region (Eagle Pass)	65	65	5-70+
Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation	41	14-30	3-15
Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary	45	>1	0-5
Santa Cruz – Pinagturilan	20	0	0
Oriental Mindoro (Municipalities of Victoria, Bansud, Bongabong and Mansalay)	40	0	0

¹Petocz (1989); ²de Leon (1996); ³Long *et al.* (2018)

ECOLOGY AND BEHAVIOUR

Tamaraw inhabits secondary forest and open grasslands, both of which are seasonally burned by the indigenous Mangyan people who practice slash-and-burn farming. Tamaraw have been observed feeding more frequently in the early mornings and evenings and are typically observed in small family groups or lone bulls (Cebrian *et al.* 2014).

The exact age of sexual maturity in both bull and cow Tamaraw is unknown (Cebrian *et al.* 2014). Tamaraw cows have a gestation period of 317 days with a calving interval of 712 days (Sarabia *et al.* 1998), and typically give birth to one calf (Custodio, et. al. 1996). Tamaraws breed during the dry season, from December to May and births occur during Mindoro's wet season from June to November when vegetation is lush. Cows give birth to a single calf every two years (Custodio, et.al. 1996).

Tamaraws were often described as solitary (Talbot & Talbot, 1966; Kuehn, 1976; Suchomel, 2005). However, recent study in MIBNP revealed that bulls were often solitary and cows formed small family groups of 2-12 individuals of different ages, with or without bulls. These results demonstrate that the population remained relatively stable, maintaining a constant age structure and reproductive rate (Ishihara, et. al. 2014).

With fewer than 600 Tamaraws remaining and an estimated area of occupancy of less than 10,000 ha (Long *et al.* 2018), Tamaraws are listed as Critically Endangered on the IUCN 'Red List' (Boyles *et al.* 2016) and on the Updated National List of Threatened Philippine Fauna and their Categories (DAO 2019-09).

In addition to the populations at Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP), Upper Amnay Watershed and Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation, a 2019 survey has confirmed presence of up to six individuals in the Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary. Details of the estimated sizes of Tamaraw populations as of 2018 are presented in Table 2. Around 80% of individuals are presumed to be in only one subpopulation, in a restricted area of less than 3,000 ha within MIBNP (Long *et al.* 2018; see below).

MOUNTS IGLIT-BACO NATURAL PARK

While the Tamaraw population in Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP) has increased over the last two decades (Table 1), the area of occupancy has contracted (Long *et al.* 2018). In 2000, the area of presence was estimated to be around 5,000 ha, but this had reduced to 2,500 ha in the dry season of 2017 (Figure 2). The causes of the observed increase in population but contraction of area of occupancy are unclear (Long *et al.* 2018).

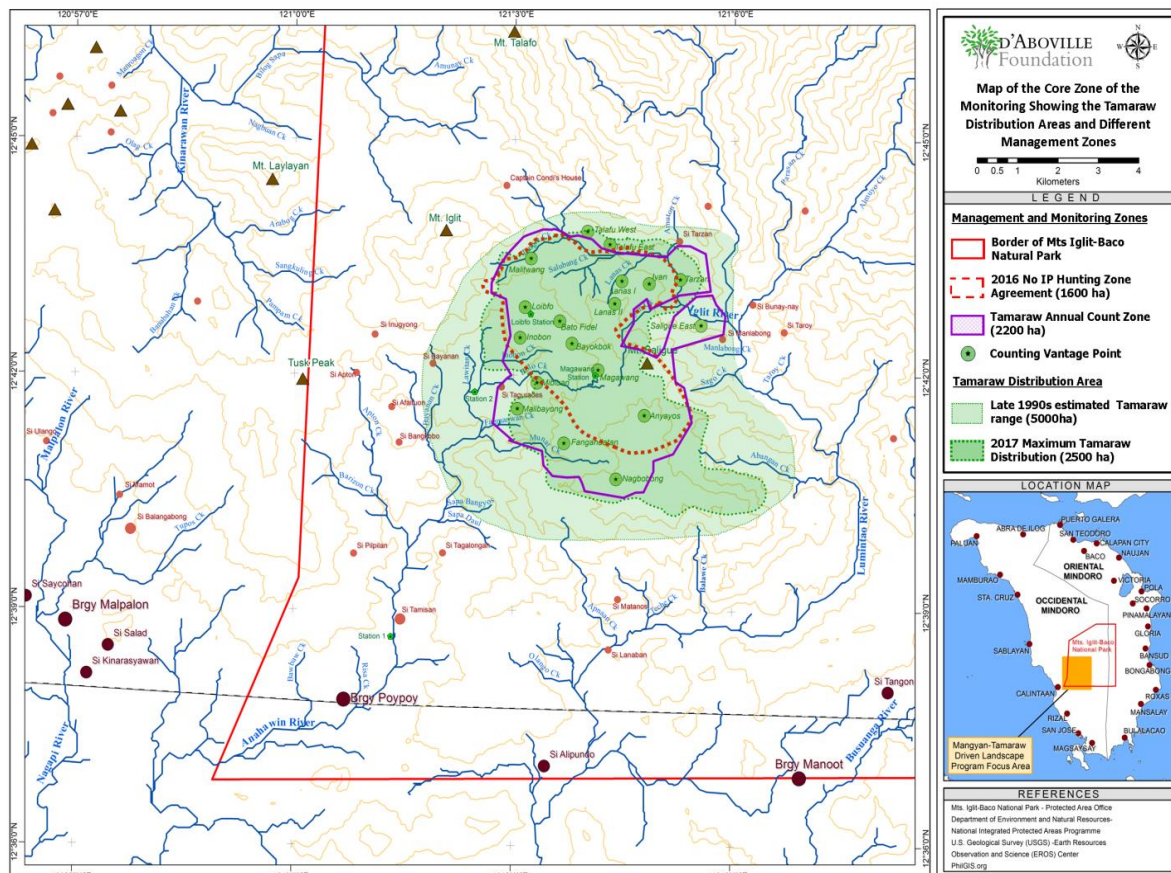


Figure 2. The distribution of Tamaraw within the Core Zone of Monitoring in Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park, Mindoro, between the late 1990s and 2017, and showing different management zones (from Long *et al.* 2018).

UPPER AMNAY WATERSHED REGION

Surveys in 2017 and 2018 confirmed the presence of a Tamaraw population in the Upper Amnay Watershed region (Figure 3). With an estimated population size of up to 70 individuals, and an area of occupancy greater than 6,000 ha, this population is larger than the Aruyan-Malati population (Long *et al.* 2018). Here, Tamaraw are confined to mountain habitats (mossy forest, montane tropical forest and dwarf vegetation) above 500 masl, adopting browsing behaviour and a more fibre-rich diet than the grassland populations (Long *et al.* 2018; Schütz 2019).

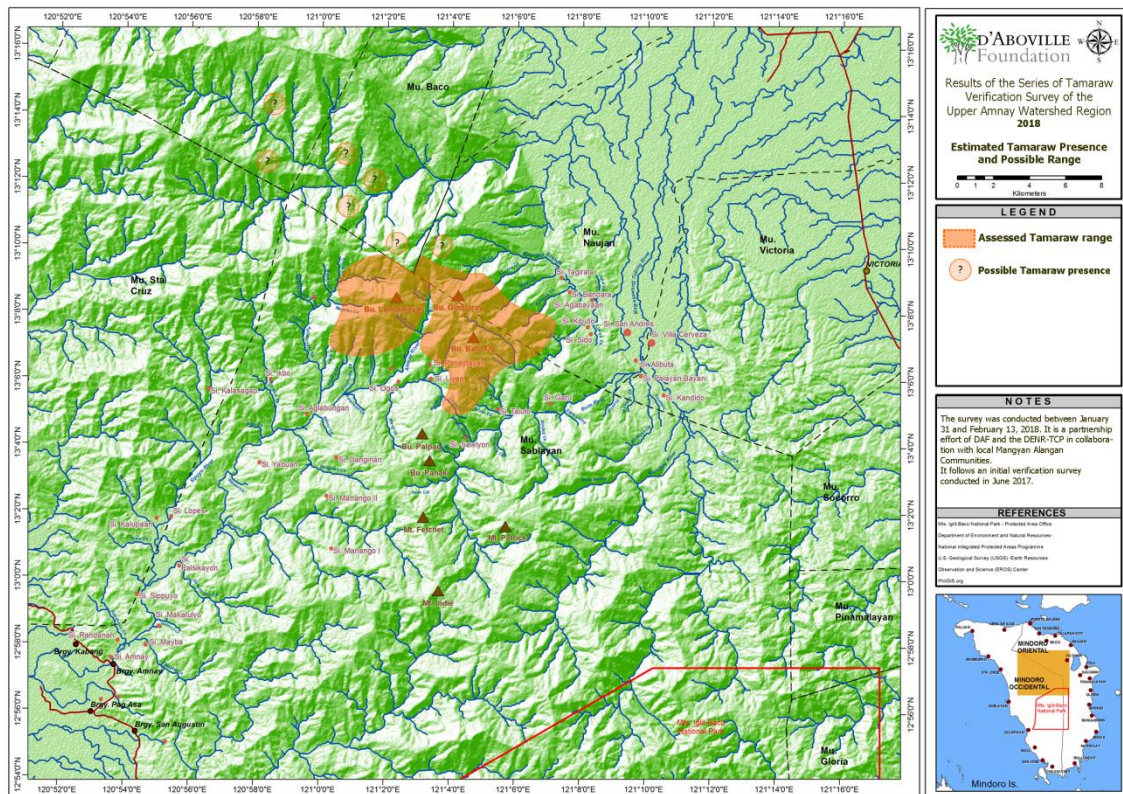
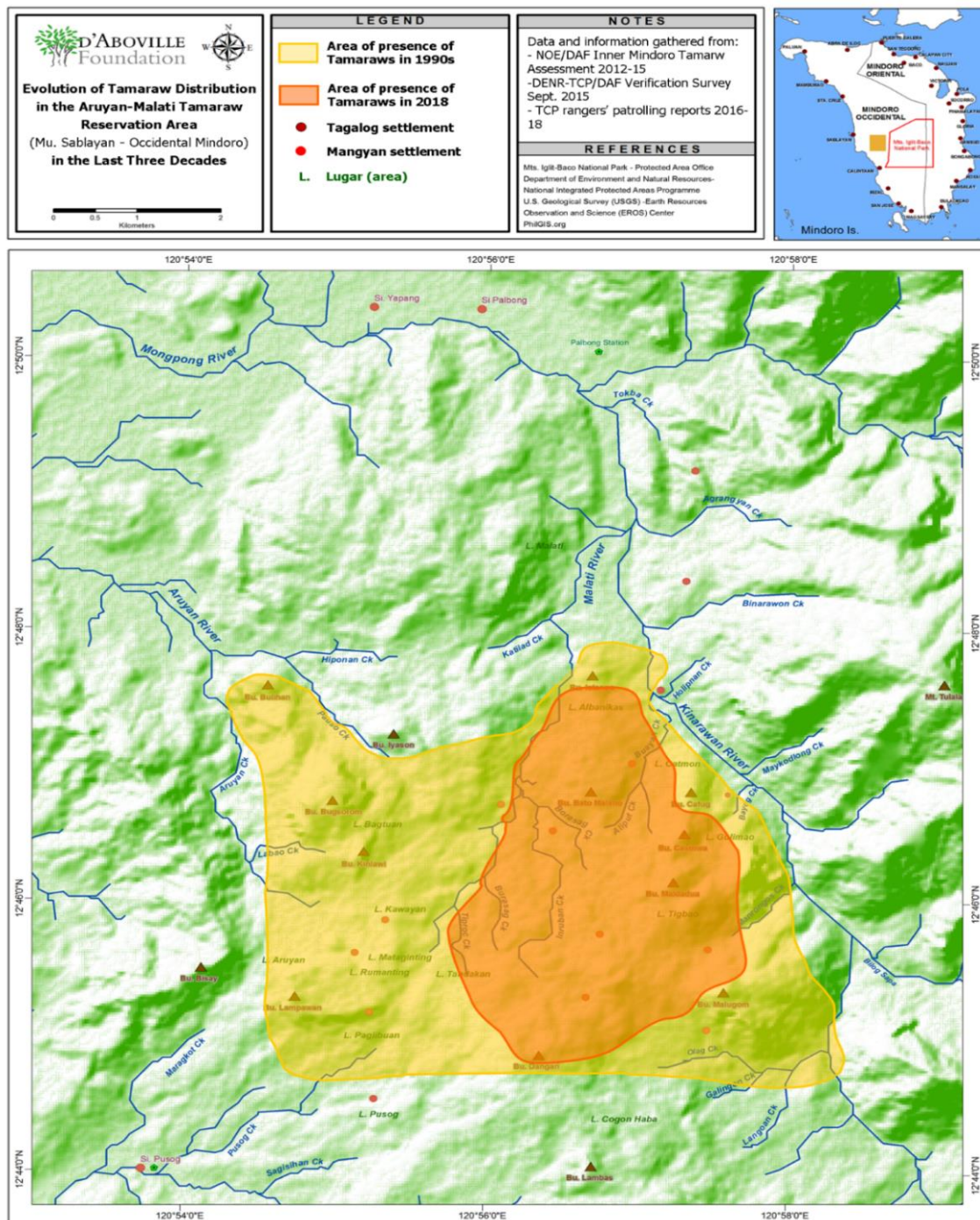


Figure 3. Location and possible range of the Tamaraw population of the Upper Amnay Watershed Region, Mindoro (from Long *et al.* 2018).

ARUYAN-MALATI TAMARAW RESERVATION

The Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation is located in Occidental Mindoro, to the west of MIBNP (Figure 4). The Reservation is characterized by a hilly landscape dominated by secondary forest, along with areas of open grassland from slash and burn agriculture (Long *et al.* 2018). Estimates of Tamaraw numbers here vary, with surveys suggesting 15-20 individuals in 2007, 10-12 individuals in 2015 and the most recent ranger patrols reporting two or three family groups along with a few solitary males (Long *et al.* 2018).



CURRENT AND HISTORIC THREATS

HABITAT LOSS AND DEGRADATION

Conversion of natural habitats into agricultural lands was likely the primary cause of decline in the Tamaraw's range throughout the 20th Century. Mindoro was once entirely forested, however by 1988 around 70% of forest cover had been lost to commercial logging and subsequent conversion to agriculture (Gonzalez *et al.* 2000), and a further 30,000 ha of forest cover was lost between 1988 and 2015 (Long *et al.* 2018). In 2011, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) has implemented the moratorium on the cutting and harvesting of timber in natural and residual forests consistent with Executive Order No. 23 Series of 2011; as well as the large-scale reforestation program (through the National Greening Program) consistent with Executive Order No. 26 Series of 2011, with several sites in Mindoro. Despite these however, forests remain threatened (Israel & Lintag 2013).

Deforestation allowed grasslands dominated by cogon grass (*Imperata cylindrica*) to develop and persist, which were used for cattle ranching, forcing Tamaraw out and restricting them to more mountainous terrain (Long *et al.* 2018). Grasslands are frequently burnt by Mangyan communities as well as by the local authorities to assist with the annual Tamaraw population monitoring in MIBNP as controlled burning improves visibility and at the same time enhances sprouts of cogon and talahib (*Saccharum spontaneum*) grasses which are the main forage of the Tamaraws. Burning likely facilitates the expansion of several invasive plant species, such as *Chromolaena odorata*, therefore reducing the quality of habitat for Tamaraw (Long *et al.* 2018).

HUNTING AND POACHING

Along with habitat loss, illegal hunting is one of the primary factors affecting the distribution of Tamaraw (Cebrian *et al.* 2014). Following World War II, the availability of high-powered rifles and automatic weapons, alongside traditional hunting using spears and pit-traps, contributed to the rapid decline in Tamaraw populations (Talbot & Talbot 1966; Cebrian *et al.* 2014). It is reported that hunting intensified in the late 1960s, and trophy hunting was occurring until the 1980s (Long *et al.* 2018).

There are reports that insurgent groups in the mountainous regions hunt Tamaraw for food, and the inhabitants of lowland areas occasionally kill Tamaraw when poaching pigs or deer. Mangyan indigenous communities use traditional hunting practices, such as spear or snare trapping, for deer or pigs, and Tamaraw are also occasionally killed (Long *et al.* 2018). Even low off-take levels are likely to have a major impact on the survival of remnant Tamaraw subpopulations (de Leon *et al.* 1996).

The improvement of infrastructure on Mindoro is facilitating access to the currently remote Tamaraw range areas, putting these populations at risk from poaching. For example, the cross-Mindoro road, currently under construction, will enable access to the Upper Amnay Watershed Region, threatening the survival of this newly confirmed population (Long *et al.* 2018).

DISEASE RISK

An outbreak of rinderpest, a highly contagious viral disease of domestic cattle, is a possible cause of the sharp decline in the Tamaraw population from 1900 to 1949 (Harper 1945; Buchholtz 1990; Cebrian *et al.* 2014). It is believed that the risk of disease is now lower as domestic cattle is no longer present in the same areas where Tamaraw populations are found. However, there is a risk of crossover in MIBNP, where cattle grazing continues close to the Core Zone of Monitoring (Long *et al.* 2018).

SMALL POPULATION EFFECTS

Declining population size and increased fragmentation leads to reduced gene diversity (through genetic drift) and increased inbreeding. This may reduce the fitness of a population and its ability to adapt to environmental change (Frankham *et al.* 2010). Further, small and restricted populations show increased vulnerability to the influence of chance and may fluctuate dangerously in response to otherwise normal variation in environmental conditions. Therefore, the small size and fragmentation of the Tamaraw population may pose a serious threat to the long-term survival of the species (Long *et al.* 2018).

CONSERVATION INITIATIVES

LEGAL PROTECTION

The Tamaraw was first legally protected when the Commonwealth Act No. 73 was signed into law in 1936. This prohibited the killing, wounding or removing of Tamaraw from their habitat, however in 1939, Forestry Administrative Order No. 17 declared that special licenses were available to permit the killing and selling of dead or live Tamaraw. In 2001, the Republic Act No. 9147 brought in strict penalties for hunting, killing or trading Tamaraw, including the destruction of their habitat (Cebrian *et al.* 2014). The Tamaraw is listed in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (Boyles *et al.* 2016).

MIBNP was established as Mts. Iglit-Baco Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary in 1969 and upgraded to a National Park in 1970. The declaration of MIBNP as a “natural park”, rather than national park in 2018, recognizes the Mangyan communities living within the boundaries of the protected area, as well as their rights to use and manage natural resources. A management plan for MIBNP is in publication, and this will help to guide conservation actions in the park (Long *et al.* 2018). Mt Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary was first established as Mt. Calavite Game Refuge and Bird Sanctuary in 1920. Currently, all other known Tamaraw populations are found outside protected areas (Long *et al.* 2018).

The Presidential Committee for the Conservation of the Tamaraw was formed in 1979, leading to the creation of the DENR-supervised Tamaraw Conservation Program (TCP). Since 2005, the TCP has been managed by the DENR MIMAROPA Region.

CAPTIVE POPULATION MANAGEMENT

A ‘Gene Pool Farm’ was established in Manoot, Mindoro in 1980 as an *ex situ* breeding facility for Tamaraw. Between 1982 and 1984, 20 Tamaraws were captured from Aruyan-Malati (Custodio *et al.* 1996). Several animals died during either the capture process, transportation or soon after release into the facility, resulting to 11 animals remaining by 1990. Five calves were born between 1990 and 1999, however some of these were stillbirths due to infection by bluetongue virus and leptospirosis. One calf died during the birthing process, and another survived for a year before dying due to endoparasite infection. The fifth calf named “Kalibasib”, a male born in 1999, is the only captive-bred Tamaraw that survived until adulthood. It succumbed to death on 10 October 2020 at 21 years of age (DENR-TCP field report, 2020).

The failure to establish a breeding programme at the Gene Pool Farm has been attributed to the difficulties of access, disease, husbandry techniques used and frequent changes in management responsibility (Cebrian *et al.* 2014; Long *et al.* 2018). However, animals were able to breed and live to old-age at the facility indicating that with improved husbandry techniques and advanced disease control, a future conservation breeding programme could be successful (Long *et al.* 2018).

POPULATION MODELLING AND CONSERVATION PLANNING

A Population and Habitat Viability Assessment (PHVA) workshop for Tamaraw was held in 1996. This highlighted the vulnerability of the remaining Tamaraw populations due to their small size, even when facing relatively low levels of poaching (de Leon *et al.* 1996).

Where implemented, the recommendations of the 1996 PHVA have achieved success for the Tamaraw (Long *et al.* 2018); in MIBNP, for example, the numbers of Tamaraw have shown a positive trend (Table 1). However, in the areas where conservation action has not been taken, or has been insufficient, populations are now presumed extirpated (e.g. Santa Cruz, Baongabong), at high risk (e.g. Aruyan-Malati, Mt Calavite) or at risk of further decline (e.g. Upper Amnay Watershed Region) (Long *et al.* 2018).

TAMARAW POPULATION VIABILITY ANALYSIS

SUMMARY

- Tamaraw presence is confirmed at four wild sites: Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park (N=400-500), Upper Amnay Watershed Region (N=10-60), Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation (N=3-15) and Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary (N=4-6).
- The viability and recovery potential of these populations was explored under a variety of conditions using *VORTEX* simulation models (Lacy & Pollack, 2017) and the results are summarised below. The timeframe considered was 100 years. An extinction probability of zero and an inbreeding coefficient below the international rule of thumb for captive populations ($F \leq 0.125$) were used to distinguish successful scenarios.
- The baseline model growth rate of $r=0.0452$ (approximately 4-5% per year) was highly sensitive to changes in factors related to female breeding success (annual percentage of females breeding, adult female mortality, age at first breeding). Environmental threats or conservation measures that target these factors are likely to have a disproportionate effect on population viability. Over the range of values considered, varying male mortality rates had little impact.
- Populations beginning small but able to grow showed lower risks of extinction and accumulated less inbreeding than those that remained small. In the absence of poaching, disease outbreaks or extreme environmental effects, a stable population of at least 75 Tamaraw was required to achieve both zero extinction risk and the maintenance of inbreeding below the recommended threshold. Where constraints on growth were removed the same could be achieved with a population starting with 50 individuals.
- Populations showed poor tolerance to poaching. Populations of 100 individuals showed rapid declines and extinction risks of 44-100% where poaching levels reached or exceeded four adult Tamaraw per year.
- Models incorporating outbreaks of domestic cattle-borne diseases showed lower average population sizes, decreased growth and increased likelihood of extinction over the 100-year period. Results suggest that a population of N=100 could withstand only occasional and mild disease outbreaks.
- Under a scenario of “no conservation action,” site-specific models predicted 100% risk of extinction over the next 100 years, of Tamaraw at Aruyan-Malati and at Mount Calavite; 48% extinction risk for Upper Amnay; and 1% extinction risk at Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park.
- The potential value of a captive population as a source of release animals was modelled. To produce more than two individuals per year for release, a breeding facility would need to hold at least 25 individuals, with sustained annual breeding in at least 60% of the females.

These results and inferences are based on population models built using the best information available at the time of the workshop. There remain many areas of parameter uncertainty. The thresholds and figures reported here should be used as a guide only and revised as new information becomes available.

- In models without poaching, establishing a new Tamaraw population required an initial release cohort of at least 20 Tamaraw. Where poaching was present, likelihood of success was poor and much larger release cohorts were needed. Release cohorts with a female-biased sex-ratio grew more quickly. A ratio of 10:10 took approximately 45 years to reach 100 individuals whereas a ratio of 14:6 took 35 years. Too great a skew can elevate inbreeding rates and risk loss of all founder males before breeding.

INTRODUCTION

There are many gaps in our knowledge of Tamaraw biology and in our understanding of how the species might respond to changes in environment or management. Computer simulation models, though not expected to be an accurate depiction of living Tamaraw populations, can help us to assemble available information and expert opinion and use it to make informed assumptions about what needs to be done, how and when. Analyses of this type are generally referred to as Population Viability Analyses (PVA).

For the Tamaraw PHVA, PVA models were built using the *VORTEX* simulation program (Version 10.3.6.0) (Lacy & Pollack, 2017). *VORTEX* models are particularly well-suited to exploring questions about populations numbering a few hundred individuals or less as they incorporate those aspects of demographic, environmental and genetic uncertainty that are known to pose risks to populations of this size.

PVA Goals

- 1) To explore the strengths and weaknesses of Tamaraw life-history characteristics.
- 2) To estimate the relative impact on population viability, of known or potential threats.
- 3) To illustrate the group's best guess at the likely future for remaining Tamaraw populations under current conditions.
- 4) To compare the relative impact of alternative management interventions on Tamaraw population viability, both overall and at individual sites.
- 5) To identify key gaps in knowledge that would help improve these analyses.

The following pages present details about the models constructed, the rationale behind the scenarios explored and summaries of the major findings.

BASELINE MODEL

A baseline model was built to simulate a population of reasonable size, under good conditions, in absence of major threats and without extreme pressure from small population-related issues. In later sections, this model was adapted to reflect known or estimated site or population conditions, or proposed conservation management scenarios.

Data for the baseline Tamaraw model were drawn from:

- information from surveys at Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park;
- information from a previous population viability analysis (de Leon et al., 1996);
- information in the literature, for closely related species;
- estimates and opinions elicited from experts in the lead up to, during and following the 2018 PHVA workshop; and
- results of modelling work by Christophe Bonenfant.

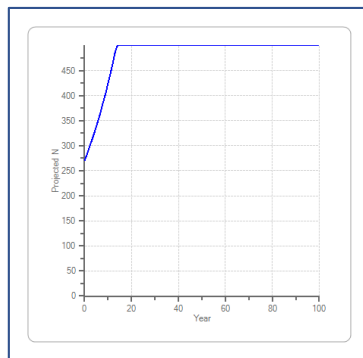
Further information on baseline model parameters is provided at the end of this section.

DETERMINISTIC CHARACTERISTICS

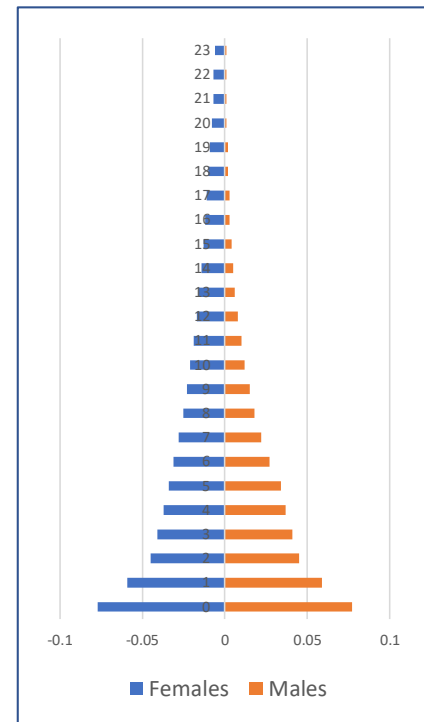
In the absence of probabilistic effects (stochastic fluctuations in demographic rates and environmental impacts; and inbreeding depression), the baseline model shows a mean annual growth rate of roughly 4-5% per year ($\lambda = 1.0462$). Generation time (average age at breeding) across both sexes is 10.6 years, see Table 3 for details. The ratio of adult males to adult females in the modelled population is 0.572 to 1.000 with only a small percentage of individuals of either sex surviving beyond 15 years (3.2% of males, 12.3% of females). In a wild population a lower percentage of older males can result from direct and indirect impacts of inter-male competition. This skew matches that observed at MIBNP but it was suggested there may be differences at other sites related to greater forest cover, which may favour more even adult sex-ratios.

Table 3. Deterministic characteristics of the baseline model.

Measure	Value
r (instantaneous growth rate)	0.0452
λ (lambda – annual growth rate)	1.0462
Ro (growth per generation)	1.7083
T (generation time in years)	10.60



Figures 5 & 6. Graph of deterministic growth (left) and of population age-structure (right), showing skew towards adult females.

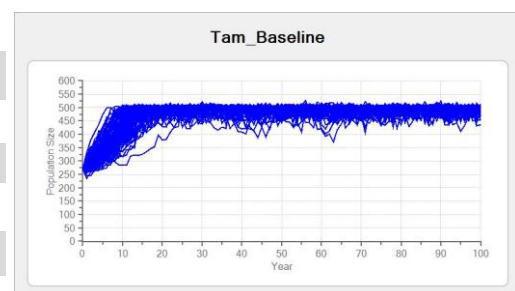


STOCHASTIC CHARACTERISTICS

The inclusion of probabilistic effects (stochastic fluctuations in demographic rates and environmental impacts; inbreeding depression) reduces the mean instantaneous rate of growth from 0.0452 to 0.0424.

Table 4. Impact of probabilistic factors on performance in the three baseline models, with illustration of 100 probabilistic projections (right).

Measure	Value
r (instantaneous growth rate)	0.0452
Standard Deviation in r	0.0595
Mean size of surviving populations @ 100 years	492.87
Probability Extinct @ 100 years	0.000



As illustrated, the inclusion of probabilistic effects has a slight negative impact on the growth rate of the baseline model but despite this it grows consistently over the 100-year period modelled with no significant declines and no risk of extinction.

SENSITIVITY TESTING

There remains much uncertainty around the values used in the models. Some model parameters are more influential than others in shaping population performance and understanding which of these can help determine priorities for future action, for research and for monitoring. *VORTEX* can help by providing a simple and quick way to test the sensitivity of the baseline models to uncertainty in each individual parameter.

One parameter at a time was selected in the baseline model (e.g. age at first breeding, inter-birth interval, sex-ratio etc.) and was varied across a plausible range of values, keeping all other parameters constant. The impact of this variation on population growth rate was recorded and compared to that recorded for other parameters. The results are illustrated in Figure 7 below.

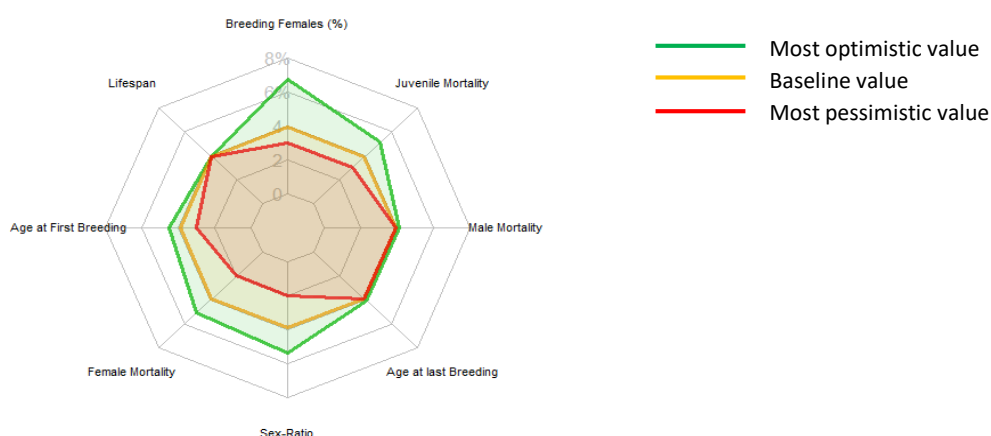


Figure 7. Result of sensitivity testing of the baseline models

Across the range of values considered, factors related to female breeding success had the greatest impact on population growth rate. Increasing the annual percentage of females breeding from the most pessimistic value to the most optimistic one increased the growth rate of the population from 3% to 7%. An adult sex-ratio biased towards females and reduced adult female mortality also increased growth rates considerably. Reducing the age at first breeding also showed an effect. Longevity (lifespan) and age at last breeding had no observable impact. This is counter-intuitive and results because in the models (and often in wild populations) most mortality occurs in young animals such that relatively few individuals of a cohort are left as the designated ages at last breeding and longevity approach. Loss of these individuals therefore has only a small impact on population growth rates. Male mortality rates had no observable impact.

THREATS

There is uncertainty about the sizes of remaining Tamaraw populations, the ages and sexes of remaining animals, whether or not the population is growing, the quality of habitat in each area, what threats may be operating at each site and at what level of severity. A series of generic models were built to explore the potential impacts of these factors on growth rates and extinction risk.

POPULATION SIZE

Tamaraws are known to be persisting at a minimum of four isolated sites in Mindoro. Population size estimates range from 4-6 individuals at Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary to 400-500 at Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park. Models were built with a representative range of starting population sizes (N=5, 15, 25, 50,

75, 100, 200, and 400). Two types of scenario were used to explore the potential impact of population size on viability:

- **No growth scenarios:** in which populations are capped at the starting population size (e.g. due to poaching, disturbance, poor habitat quality or some other factor).
- **Growth scenarios:** in which the constraints on growth are removed and population growth is allowed up to a carrying capacity of 500 Tamaraw.

Extinction risks and inbreeding accumulation for each scenario are reported in Table 5 and illustrated in Figures 8 and 9.

Table 5. Impact of starting population size on 100-year extinction risk with and without the ability for population growth. Non-zero extinction risks and population mean inbreeding coefficients above the internationally accepted threshold for captive programs, are flagged in **RED**.

Initial population size (No. of Tamaraw)	P (Extinction at 100 years) (%)		Inbreeding accumulation at 100 years (Coefficient of inbreeding, F)	
	With no further growth	With unconstrained growth	With no further growth	With unconstrained growth
5	100	91.0	N/A	0.3586
15	92.8	13.3	0.4222	0.1823
25	33.6	0.7	0.2827	0.1013
50	0.3	Zero	0.1448	0.0473
75	Zero	Zero	0.0975	0.0329
100	Zero	Zero	0.0764	0.0268
200	Zero	Zero	0.0389	0.0185
400	Zero	Zero	0.0195	0.0158

Zero growth was achieved by setting carrying capacity equal to initial population size.

POPULATIONS THAT ARE NOT GROWING

For “static” or non-growing populations, likelihood of extinction over the 100-year period ranged from 100% for N=5 to 0% for N≥75 individuals. Average (mean) time to extinction was relatively short for smaller populations (13.5 years for N=5) and longer for larger ones (87 years for N=50). Inbreeding accumulation after 100 years varied from F=0.4222 for N=5, to F=0.0195 for N=400. Populations of N≥75 remained below the internationally recommended maximum inbreeding threshold for captive programs (F=0.125, i.e. that expected to result from a half-sibling pairing).

GROWING POPULATIONS

Populations that begin small but can grow, show a lower risk of extinction than those whose growth is constrained. Likelihood of extinction for growing populations ranged from 91% for N=5 to 0% for N≥25 individuals. Mean time to extinction (MTE) was longer than for populations that were not growing (MTE for N=5 was 30 years compared to 13.5 years). Inbreeding depression remained below internationally accepted thresholds in all populations initiated with 25 or more individuals.

Note that none of these modelled scenarios include risks from other threats such as disease, poaching or environmental deterioration.

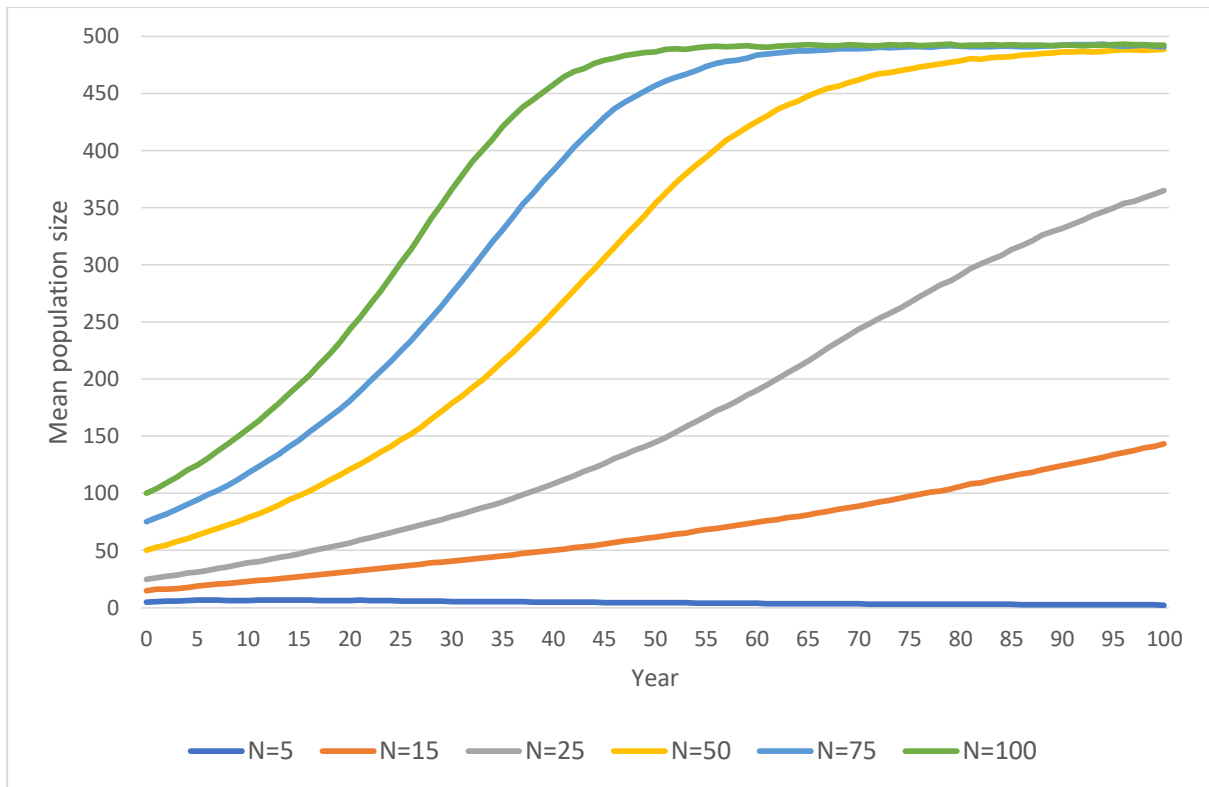


Figure 8. Mean population size over time for Tamaraw models initiated with between 5 and 100 individuals and unable to grow.

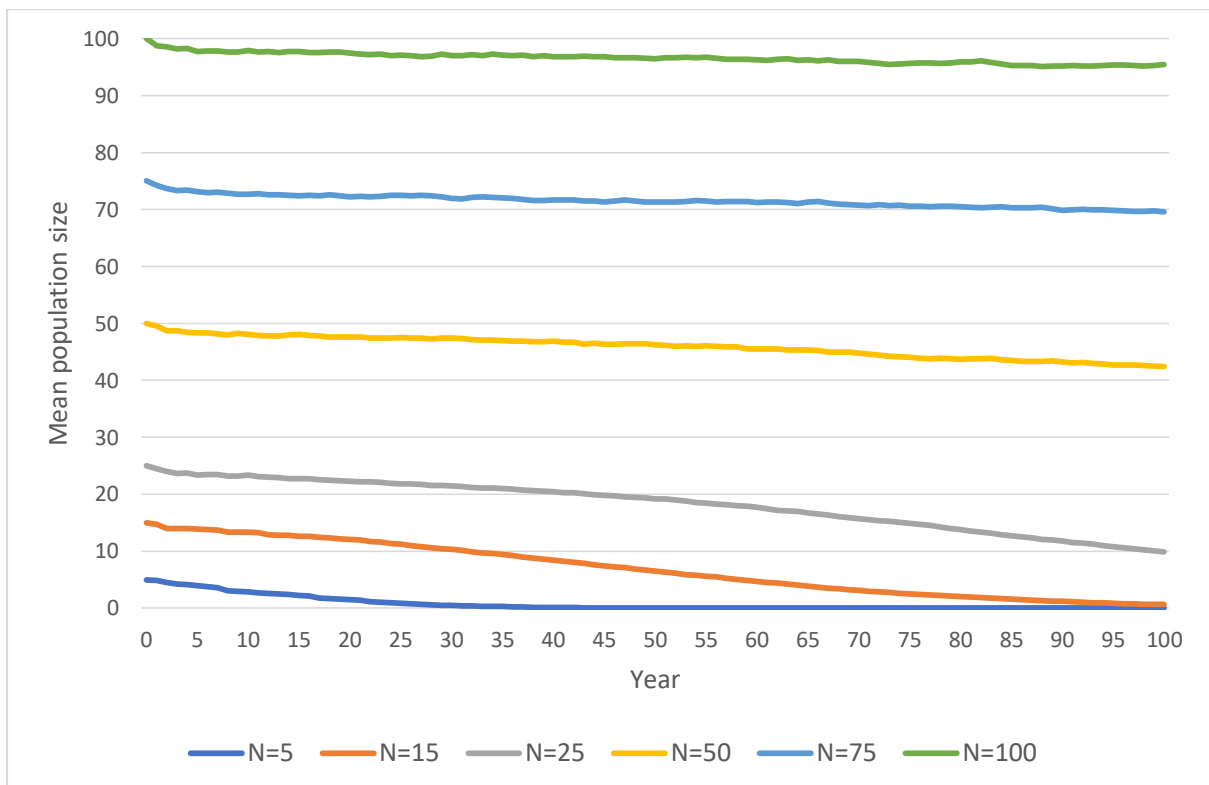


Figure 9. Mean population size over time for Tamaraw models initiated with between 5 and 100 individuals and able to grow.

POACHING

Poaching refers here to the illegal hunting of Tamaraw. It does not include traditional hunting by IPs, which is currently assumed to be included as one of several unspecified causes of annual mortality. Poaching is modelled separately, as the periodic removal of a specified number of individuals. Poaching is modelled here as an annual collection that varies from year to year around a prescribed mean value of 2, 4 or 8 animals. The population began with 100 Tamaraws in each case.

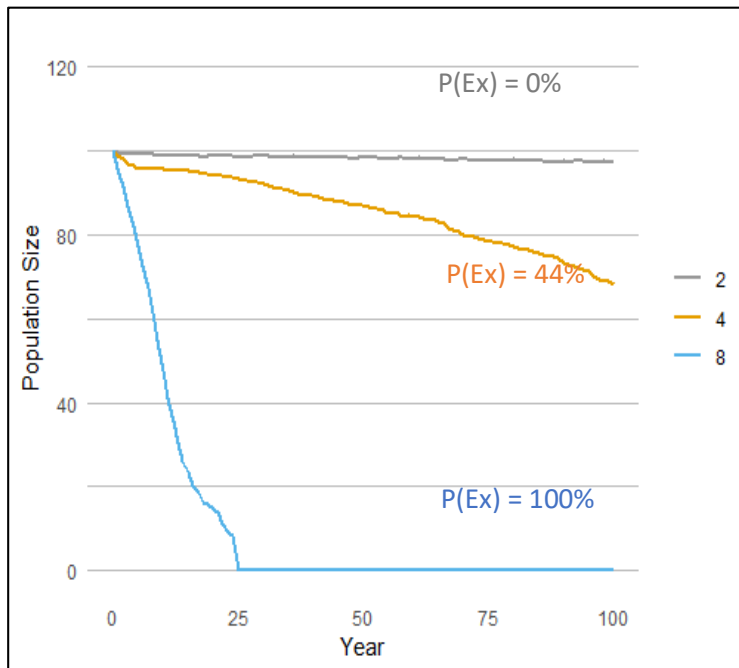


Figure 10. Impact of mean poaching rates of 2, 4 and 8 individuals per year, on a population of 100 Tamaraw, over 100 years. Mean population sizes over time and 100-year extinction risk are shown.

For a population of 100 individuals a mean poaching rate of four or more individuals per year caused rapid population declines and extinction risks of 44-100%. Note that in these models, poaching was of both adult males and females. If for any reason poaching favored females the impact would be more severe.

DISEASE

Disease is included indirectly in the baseline model as it would be expected to be a component of annual mortality; disease outbreaks can cause a spike in mortality that would fall outside the normal year-to-year variation in rates. Several diseases carried by livestock are transmissible to Tamaraw and could cause an outbreak, including hemorrhagic septicemia, surra and bovine tuberculosis. No data were available to inform estimates of the potential frequency or severity of such events but models were built to test the relative vulnerability of populations to a range of values and results are shown in Figures 11 and 12.

A disease outbreak was introduced to a population of 50 individuals, occurring with an average frequency of either once every 10 years (10%), once every 7.5 years (15%), or once every 5 years (20%). The impact of the disease was to increase mortality by 50% in the year of occurrence. Results are illustrated in Figure 11. In a further set of models, the frequency was held constant at once every 7.5 years (15%) and the severity was varied, increasing mortality by 25%, 50% and 75%. Results are shown in Figure 12.

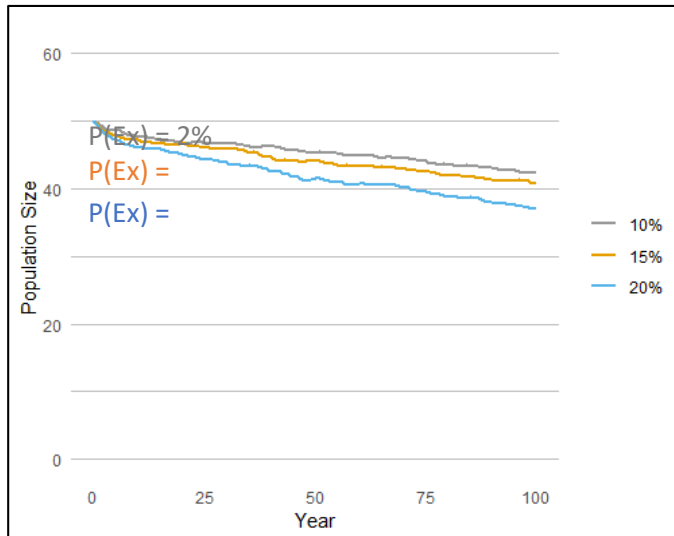


Figure 11. Impact of frequency on the impact of a hypothetical disease which, when it occurs, increases mortality by 50%.

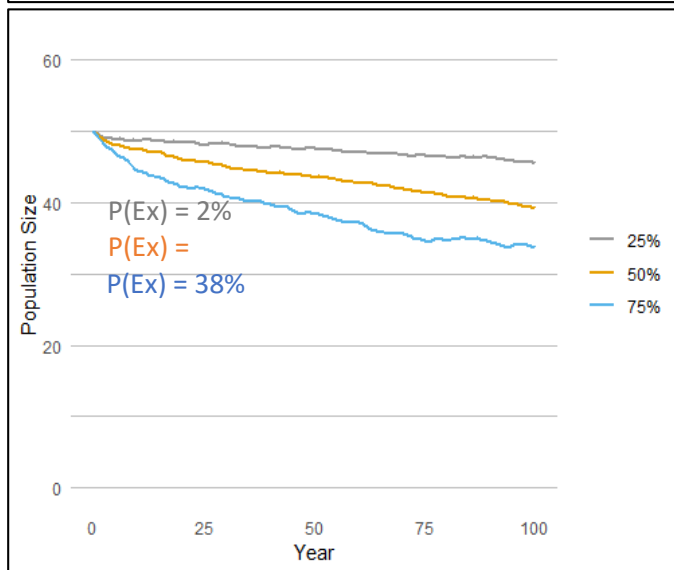


Figure 12. Impact of disease severity on mean population size and extinction risk, for a population of 50 individuals, and a hypothetical disease with a 15% likelihood of occurrence.

The introduction of disease to the models reduces average population size, decreases growth and increases the likelihood of extinction over the period considered. At the range of frequencies modelled, population extinction risk varied from 2-10%. At the severities modelled, extinction risk varied from 2-38%. Results suggest that a population of this size could withstand only occasional and mild disease outbreaks.

SITE-BASED SCENARIOS

The following section describes models built for each Tamaraw population. These models were built using what is known or assumed about the characteristics and circumstances of each. As so little is known, three models were built for each population: a pessimistic model, a best-guess model and an optimistic model. Demographic information from Mounts Iglit-Baco, the best studied population, was used as the basis for all models.

MOUNTS IGLIT-BACO

[Note that since these models were run the estimate of current population size at MIBNP has been reduced to 400-500]

The main threats to this population were poaching and habitat destruction. A best-guess model assumed a current population size of 530 individuals (though numbers are likely to be lower) and a carrying capacity of 650. Poaching rate was set to a mean of 8 individuals every year. In the pessimistic model, starting size was 450 individuals and carrying capacity 600, with poaching increased to 10 individuals per year. Finally, in the optimistic model, starting size was set to 600 individuals, carrying capacity to 800 individuals, and poaching to 6 individuals per year.

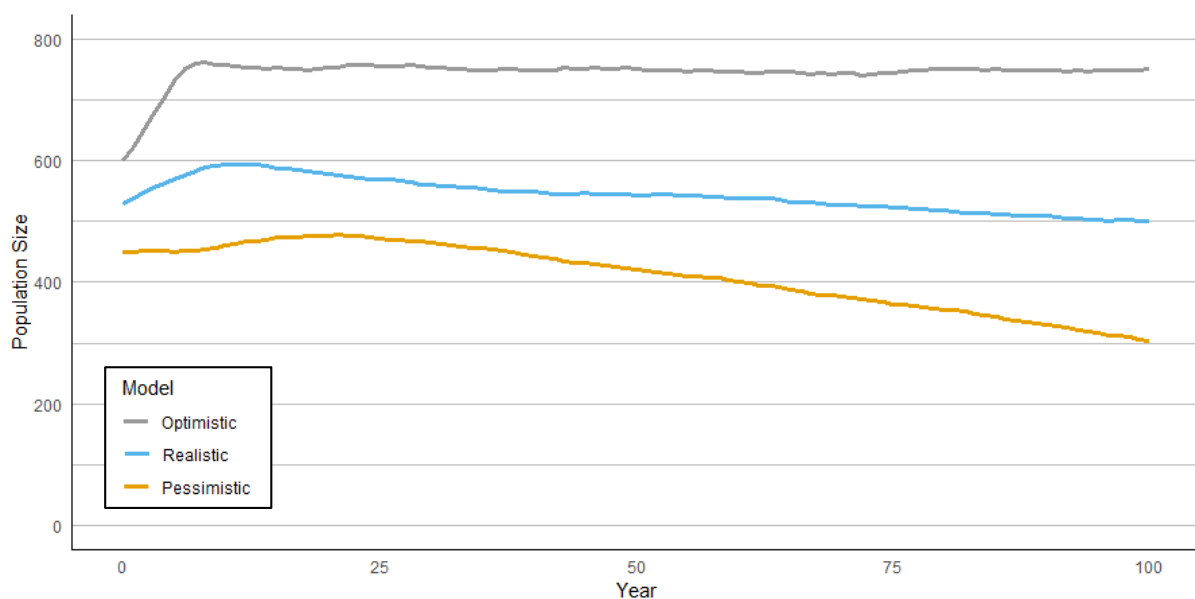


Figure 13. Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park in the presence of poaching.

With no further change in environmental conditions, and assuming low levels of poaching, the Mts. Iglit-Baco population would be expected to persist. However, the equilibrium is fragile. The best-guess model shows an ongoing decline (though only a 1% chance of extinction over the period modelled) and the pessimistic model shows a 12% risk of extinction. It is important to note that these scenarios do not consider either the effect of weed encroachment, which would be expected to reduce the carrying capacity of the site and therefore the number of Tamaraw supported, or the effect of translocating Tamaraw to other sites for conservation purposes, which would be expected to reduce Tamaraw numbers temporarily. Both scenarios would exacerbate the impact of poaching and are explored in subsequent sections.

UPPER AMNAY WATERSHED REGION

Poaching is considered the main threat to the Tamaraw population in the Upper Amnay Watershed Region. In the best guess model, starting population size and carrying capacity were both set to 70 individuals. In the optimistic model both were set to 100 individuals and in the pessimistic model both were set to 20 individuals. Note that in all models, between 1 and 4 individuals were poached each year with the exact number randomly selected by the program.

The future of Upper Amnay population will depend on current population size and on how quickly the poaching threat can be mitigated at that site. At the lower end of current population size estimates, poaching will lead to extinction in this area in the next 25 years. If the population is larger, poaching will cause a decline but time to extinction will be longer.

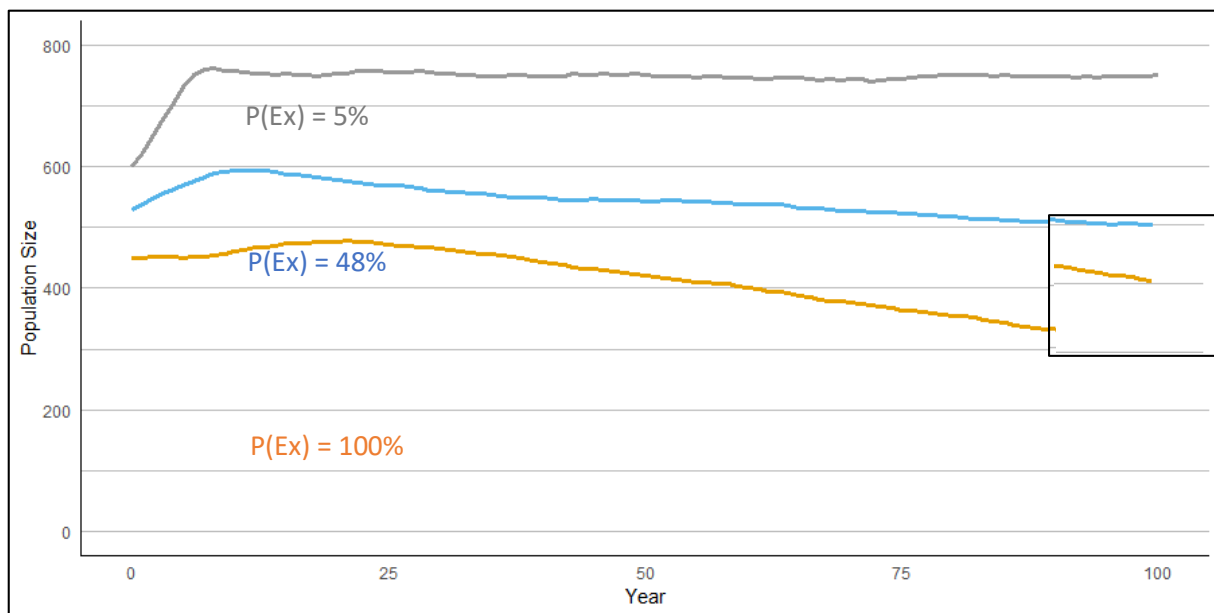


Figure 14. Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Upper Amnay Watershed Region, in the presence of poaching.

ARUYAN-MALATI

The Aruyan-Malati population is particularly small and this poses a major threat to population persistence. Poaching is also considered an issue at this site. In the best guess model, starting size and carrying capacity are both set to 10 individuals. In the optimistic model both are set to 15, and in the pessimistic model they are set to 5 individuals. Either one or two individuals were poached each year with the exact number randomly assigned by the program. The results are illustrated in Figure 15.

Even without poaching, the Aruyan-Malati population is at high risk of extinction unless it can be supported to grow larger. With continued poaching extinction is expected sometime in the next 15-30 years.

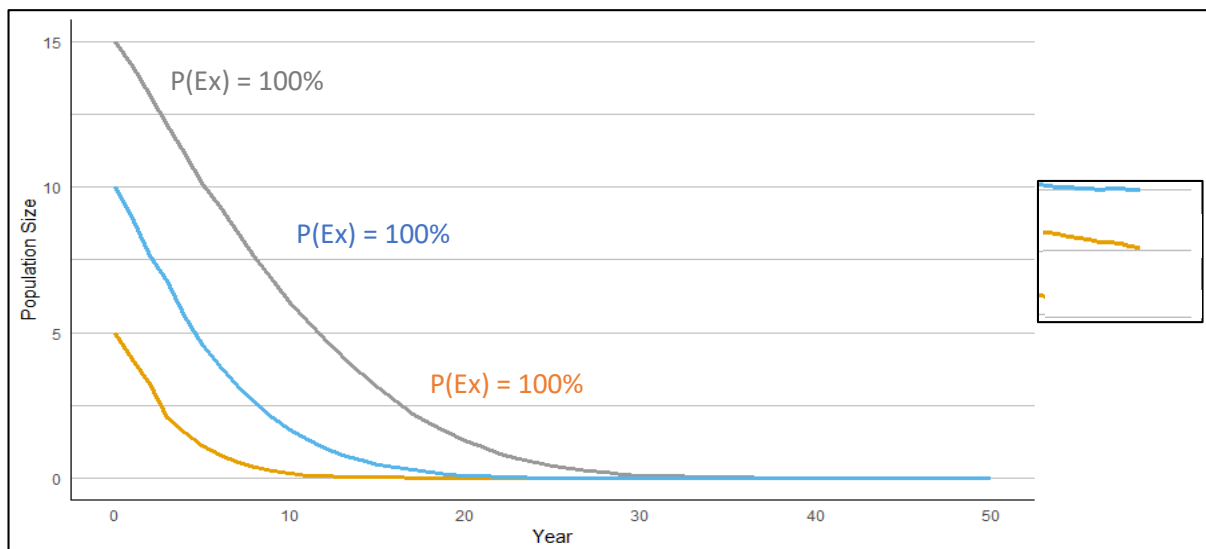


Figure 15. Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Aruyan-Malati in the presence of poaching.

MOUNT CALAVITE

[Note that these models pre-date the recent MCWS survey confirming estimates for 4-6 individuals].

Tamaraw numbers at Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary could be as low as 1 to 5 individuals. However, due to its location, the population is considered relatively safe from poaching. In the realistic model, starting size was set to 2 individuals and carrying capacity to 10, in the optimistic model starting size was set to 5 Tamaraw and carrying capacity to 15 individuals, and in the pessimistic model, starting size was set to 2 individuals and carrying capacity to 5. No poaching was included. See Figure 16 for results.

Without supplementation, the Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary population is extremely vulnerable to small population effects and is expected to decline to extinction within 7-33 years.

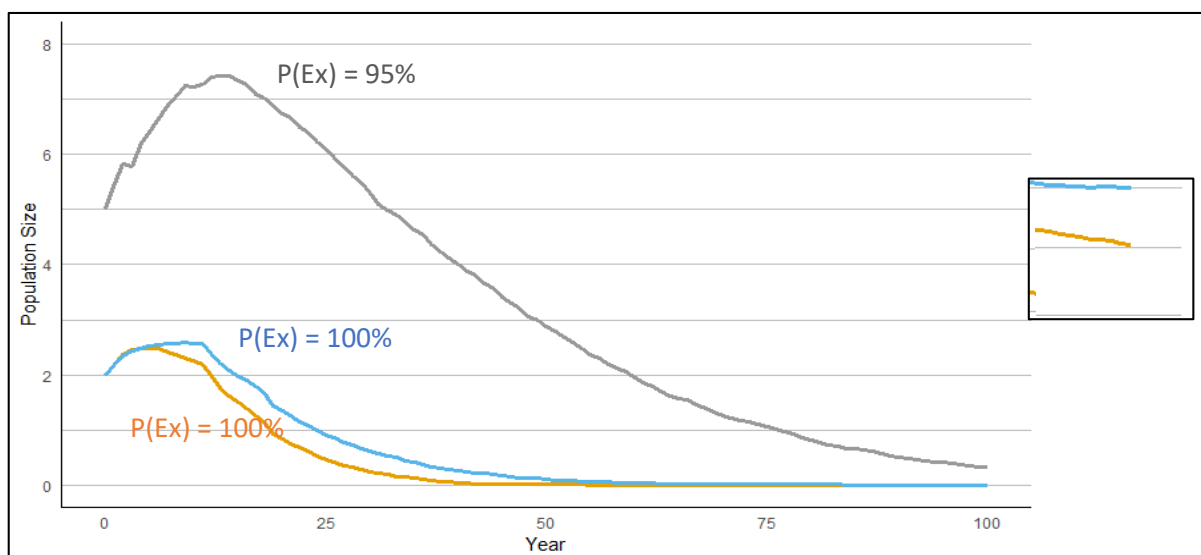


Figure 16. Pessimistic, best-guess and optimistic models for the Tamaraw population at Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary. No poaching is included.

CAPTIVE BREEDING

Models were constructed to investigate the potential for using a closely managed captive population as a net producer of animals for release to wild sites. Scenarios were constructed which explored the size of annual harvest possible from captive populations of different sizes. Baseline annual percentage of females breeding is set to 50% but additional values were also modelled, representing low reproductive success (40%) which sometimes occurs in captive populations, especially during the early phases of a program, and the higher than usual success rates that can result from more intensive husbandry (60%). Breeding through artificial insemination was also included using success rates drawn from experience with Carabao (25%). Calf mortality is the same across all scenarios.

As illustrated, the larger the facility, the more Tamaraw available for release. To produce more than two surplus individuals per year for release, a breeding facility would need to hold at least 25 individuals, with sustained annual breeding in at least 60% of the females. At the facility sizes modelled (up to 100 Tamaraw) the maximum number of animals available for release each year would be around 8-9.

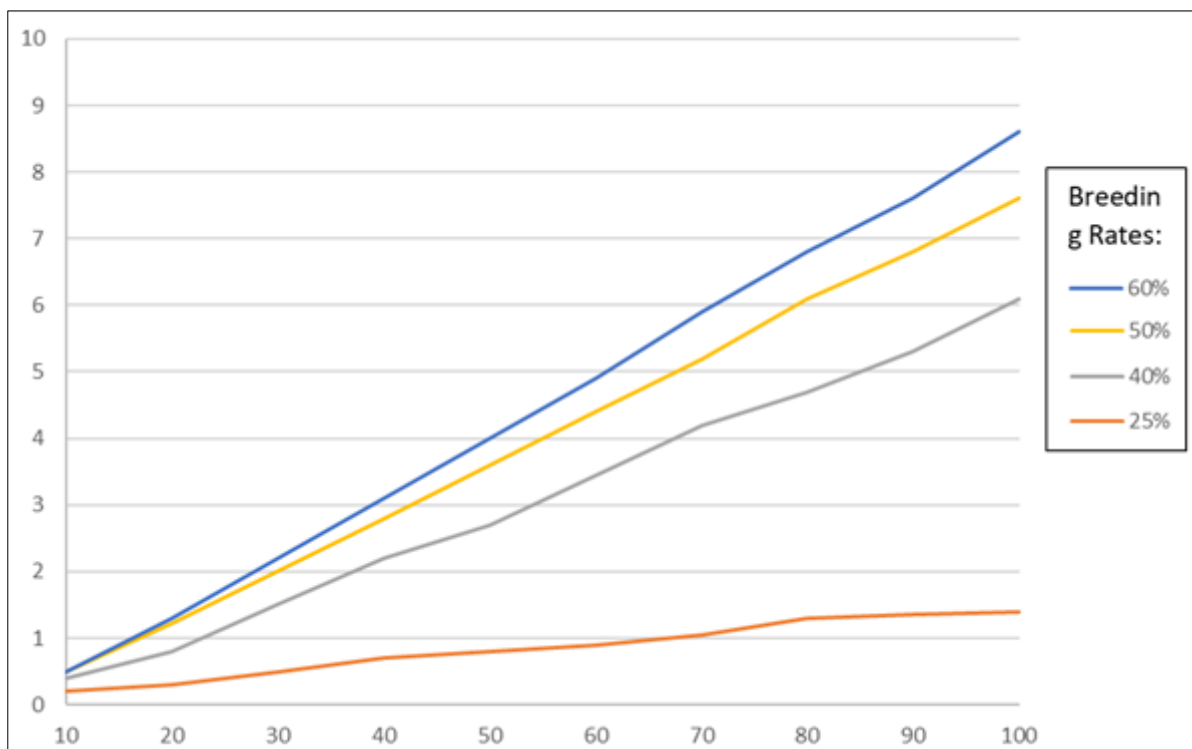


Figure 17. Expected harvesting potential of a hypothetical Tamaraw captive program under varied reproductive success.

INITIATING NEW POPULATIONS

The analysis considered the possibility creating new populations of Tamaraw at suitable sites in the future. Models were constructed to explore the minimum number of Tamaraw needed to establish a new population under a range of poaching intensities (0, 2, and 5 adult Tamaraw per year). In addition, models were used to explore the impact on growth and viability of releasing a skewed sex-ratio of animals. The results are illustrated in Figures 18 and 19.

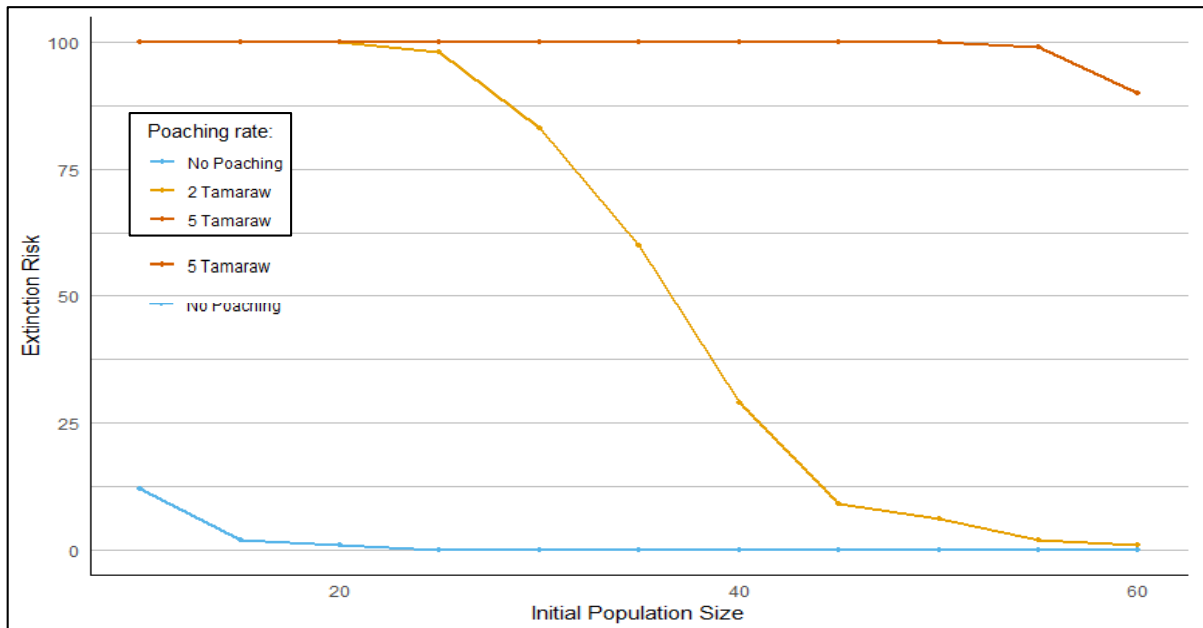


Figure 18. Impact of release site poaching intensity on minimum number of animals needed to establish a new population of Tamaraw.

As illustrated, poaching tolerance is low. Even where only two individuals are poached each year, an initial release cohort of at least 60 individuals is required to achieve an extinction risk of zero. In situations where five individuals are poached each year, 60 is not sufficient and extinction risk remains close to 100%. Where there is no poaching, a population can be established with as few as 20 individuals (provided there is space for growth). Note that populations established with 20 individuals may require supplementation downstream to mitigate inbreeding depression.

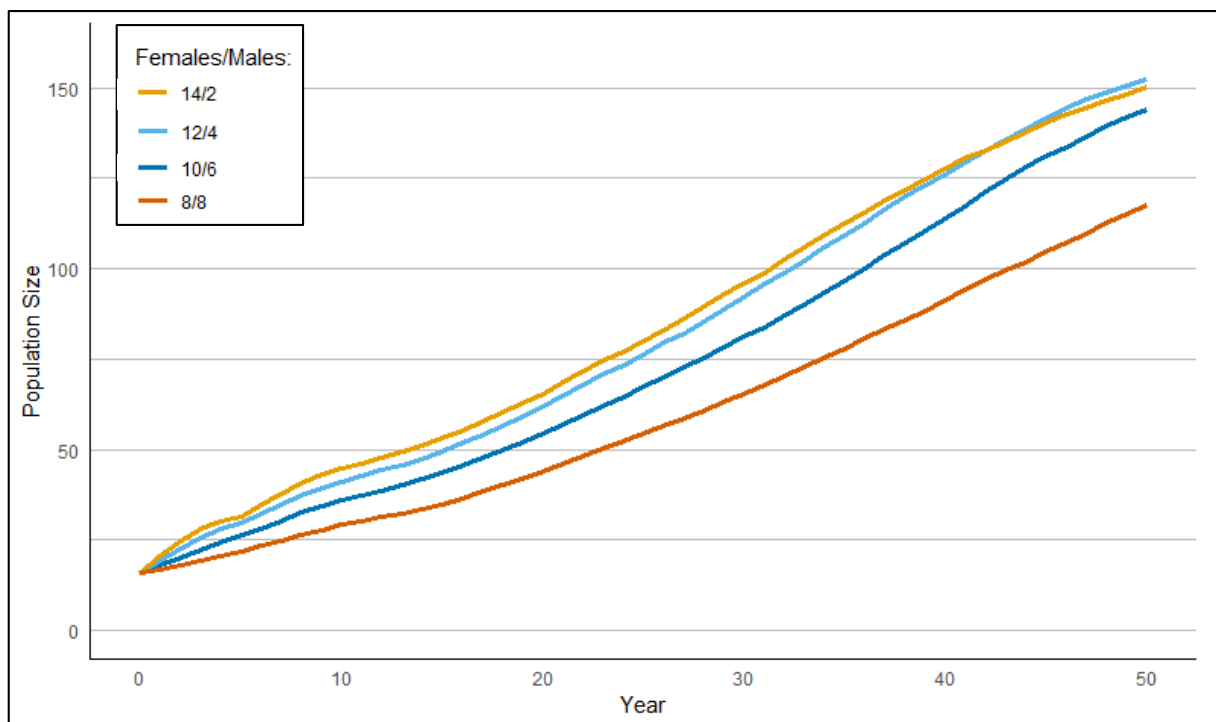


Figure 19. Impact of founding sex-ratio skew on the subsequent growth of a release cohort of 16 Tamaraw.

Release cohorts with a sex-ratio bias towards females can be expected to grow more quickly than those with an even sex-ratio, allowing larger and therefore less vulnerable population sizes to be achieved faster.

For example, a population initiated with 10 males and 10 females might take around 45 years to reach 100 individuals, where it might only take around 35 years for a population initiated with 10 females and 6 males, or 30 years for a population initiated with 14 females and 2 males. In reality, the disparity in growth may be even greater due to the impact of increased inter-male competition where sex-ratios are more even. It should be noted that too extreme, a skew towards females risks loss of the very small number of males in the early stages of the program. Such an extreme skew will also increase the rate of inbreeding accumulation in the population as all first-generation offspring will be descended from just a few males, increasing the likelihood of mating between close relatives.

Much more work is needed on site-specific models before they can be used to identify optimal strategies for supplementing existing sites or establishing new ones. Currently there is not enough information on site characteristics or on the likely behavior of release cohorts comprised of different age-classes or sex-ratios to be able to construct “best-guess scenarios”. These elements need further discussion among experts and the recommended feasibility studies relating to translocation will also provide valuable information for this.

TABLE 6. COMPARISON BETWEEN 1996 AND 2018 BASELINES MODEL PARAMETERS

Parameter	1996 PHVA	2017 Baseline	Explanation, Rationale & Notes
Time period considered	100 years	100 years	
Inbreeding depression (# Lethal Equivalents (LEs) per diploid individual.	3.14 LEs with 50% assigned as lethal recessives	6.29 LEs with 50% assigned as lethal recessives	How severe do we expect inbreeding depression to be? New <i>VORTEX</i> default for wild populations (based on O'Grady <i>et al.</i> 2006). In 1996 the default was 3.14 LEs, based on analyses of captive populations (Ralls <i>et al.</i> 1988).
EV correlation between breeding and survival.	1.0	0.5	Is a good year for breeding a good year for survival? New <i>Vortex</i> default – values can range from 0-1. Precautionary value = 1.0
Median age at first breeding	5 years	5 years	In general, what age are Tamaraw when they have their first offspring?
Maximum lifespan	23 years	23 years	What is the oldest age Tamaraw live to?
Age at last breeding	23 years	23 years	What is the oldest age they breed at?
Maximum broods per year	1	1	How many times do they breed in a typical year?
Maximum offspring per brood	1	1	In a single breeding event, what is the most offspring they might have?
Sex-ratio at birth	50:50	50:50	At birth, what is the ratio of males to females?
Annual % females breeding	50% (S.D. 5%)	50% (S.D. 5%)	1996 PHVA report notes that 2-year inter-birth intervals are typical for water buffalo, therefore 50% is likely to be the upper end of range. Rationale for more pessimistic models is as follows: Ishihara <i>et al</i> 2015 report mean annual % females breeding of 29.1 (range 20.6 to 37.3) based on 5 years of surveys 2006-2011, at Mounts Iglit-Baco National Park. This value of 29.1% is based on wild survey data of females with calves and so is assumed to miss early calf mortality. The 1996 PHVA accounted for this and the same method is applied here as follows: Survival through age 1 in this model is 0.8, therefore: % females calving annually = $(29.1/80)*100 = 36\%$ Repeating for the surveyed range of values gives: 26 – 47%. With rounding = 40%, which is applied to pessimistic models.
Density dependence	None included	None included	Though assumed to exist there is no information on the size or shape of effect. Excluded from the baseline but included in some scenarios.
Mortality Rates (%) (F/M)			
0-1 year	20/20	20/20	Age-specific mortality rates were manipulated to account for the observed sex-ratio bias in adults towards females (1:1.86) reported at MIBNP in Ishihara <i>et al</i> , 2015 and the ratios of calves to juveniles to adults reported in the same paper (21.3:21.0:57.8). EV of 30% used as per 1996 PHVA. The following life-stages were assumed for Tamaraw: Calf: 0-12 months; Juvenile: 1-3 years-old; Sub-adult: 4-5 years-old; Adult: 5 years and over. It was agreed that traditional hunting by IPs at current rates (though these are not known) would be
1-2 years	20/20	20/20	
2-3 years	5/5	5/5	

Parameter	1996 PHVA	2017 Baseline	Explanation, Rationale & Notes
3-4 years	5/5	5/5	considered a component of natural mortality. Other forms of hunting or extraction are modelled using the Harvest function.
4-5 years	5/5	5/5	
5+ years	5/5	5/15	
Catastrophes	None included	None included	None in the baseline though based on analyses of 88 taxa, Reed <i>et al</i> suggest a background likelihood of catastrophic decline in vertebrate populations (i.e. loss of at least 50% head of population) of 14% per generation. There are also reported risks to water buffalo from domestic cattle-borne diseases: rinderpest, which takes the highest toll when it occurs but is not as common as foot-and-mouth, and anthrax, which is rare. These are considered in some scenarios.
Male monopolisation	None	None	It is assumed that 100% of males are in the breeding pool. Note that because of the adult sex-ratio imposed by the mortality rates, there will be fewer adult males breeding than females.
Starting population size	175	270	Initial population size set to 270 (1996 estimate of K for MIBNP) – large enough for initial dynamics not be distorted by small population effects, small enough to allow observable growth with K set to 500.
Carrying capacity	270	500	1996 PHVA: estimated K=270 for MIBNP. Based on maximum population size reported during 5 years of observations, Ishihara <i>et al.</i> (2015) estimated K=413 for MIBNP. At the 2018 PHVA carrying capacity estimates for MIBNP (under additional management intervention) exceeded 1500 individuals and for the entire island of Mindoro exceeded 2200 individuals. K set to 500 here as a conservative estimate of current space.
Harvest	None included	None included	Excluded from baselines.
Supplementation	None included	None included	Excluded from baselines.
Genetic Management	None included	None included	Excluded from baselines.

CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT AND ACTION PLAN 2021 – 2030

INTRODUCTION

In summary, the 2021-2030 Tamaraw Conservation Management and Action Plan includes:

- A long-term VISION for the future of Tamaraw in Mindoro, described in aspirational terms;
- A description of what it means to realise the VISION, in operational terms;
- A summary of current barriers to achieving the VISION;
- GOALS aimed at overcoming these barriers; and
- ACTION STEPS to be taken in pursuit of these GOALS, including recommendations on where and how action should be taken and who would ideally be placed to take it.

Successful conservation of Tamaraw will require sustained and interdisciplinary collaboration and communication among a diverse coalition of partners. A Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council (TC3) will be established to achieve a streamlined and effective response to the challenge. The TC3 will provide a forum for the implementing partners, will hold review meetings every six months and will complete a full review of the plan in 2024.

This action plan document is intended for use by:

- workshop participants, as a record of the actions, initiatives and collaborations discussed;
- government agencies, to inform the development of other action plans and initiatives;
- non-governmental conservation organisations and community groups, to guide and inform their priorities and work plans;
- the TC3, to help in tracking and supporting progress with the directions and priorities agreed; and
- donor organizations, to guide priorities for funding support.

2050 VISION FOR TAMARAW

“By 2050, Tamaraw are a source of national pride and a flagship for Mindoro's natural and cultural heritage. They thrive in well-managed habitats, in populations that co-exist with Indigenous Peoples, and are valued by local communities across Mindoro.”

“Sa taong 2050, ang Tamaraw na pinagmumulan ng pambansang karangalan at sumisimbolo sa natural na ganda at pamanang kultura, ay napararami at napangangalagaan sa isla na malayang naninirahan kasama ang mga Mangyan at napahahalagahan ng mga pamayanan sa Mindoro.”

IN PURSUIT OF THIS VISION, BY 2050 WE CAN ENVISAGE:

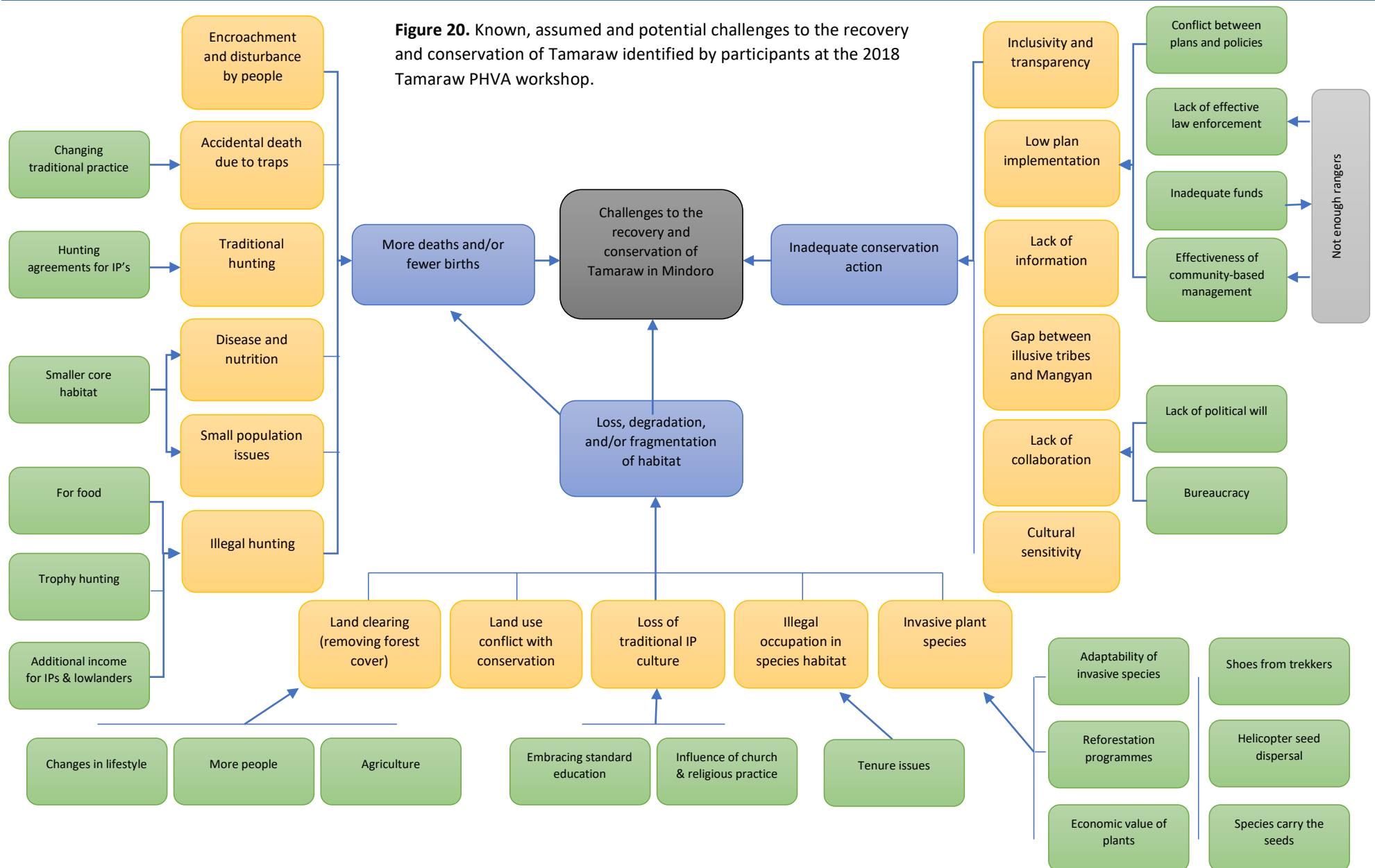
- 1200 – 2200 Tamaraw spread across multiple sites in Mindoro (at least 5 totalling 40,000 ha or more), the largest of which supports at least 600 animals and at least two others supporting 300 or more;
- Unregulated activities have ceased where Tamaraw occur, and protected viable ecosystem and food security is achieved for both Tamaraw and Indigenous Peoples; and
- The benefits of Tamaraw conservation, whether financial, cultural or ecological, are shared with other species, with Indigenous Peoples and with all Mindoreños.

WE WILL KNOW IF WE ARE MOVING TOWARDS THIS FUTURE WHERE:

- Systematic and scientifically robust population monitoring of Tamaraw provides evidence of sustained population increase across multiple sites.
- The Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council (TC3) is operationalized as the national government and citizens organization that:
 - ensures harmonization and synchronization of TCMAP objectives and activities with each partner organization's annual work and financial plans, and with the plans or frameworks of other agencies; and
 - ensures government commitment to resource implementation of the TCMAP through both finance and manpower, including allocation of responsibility for actions, six-monthly monitoring and review of actions, and acting as the decision-making and problem-solving agency for TCMAP implementation.
- The TCP is institutionalized with increased funding through DENR's annual budget allocation, to allow it to operate as the TC3 Secretariat and to conduct those activities not done by other partners.
- Traditional and national laws are enforced, and unregulated hunting, encroachment and other forms of natural resource exploitation are demonstrated to have been reduced through successful prosecutions and reduced evidence of such activities during opportunistic patrols and annual census work.
- Reduced coverage of invasive plants is achieved within Tamaraw habitat through active control work.
- Periodic socio-economic surveys of Indigenous Communities and qualified tenured migrants within Tamaraw habitat provide evidence of improved food security and health.
- Management actions to improve habitat quality and population viability for Tamaraw and other species provide improved livelihood opportunities for Indigenous People, and other relevant communities, in both financial and cultural terms.
- Existing surveys of related threatened species sharing the habitat of the Tamaraw provide evidence of improved status following Tamaraw conservation management interventions.
- Opportunistic surveys of the general public and increased linkage with national and international organizations provide evidence of their growing awareness of and positive attitudes towards Tamaraw, and biodiversity in general; Tamaraw habitats across Mindoro and along established biodiversity corridors are afforded adequate protection under existing laws, i.e. NIPAS or other effective conservation measures, and are integrated in the land use plans of concerned local government units and that of the ancestral domains.

OBSTACLES TO RECOVERY AND CONSERVATION

Figure 20. Known, assumed and potential challenges to the recovery and conservation of Tamaraw identified by participants at the 2018 Tamaraw PHVA workshop.



TAMARAW META-POPULATION MANAGEMENT

INTRODUCTION

The subsequent sections of this Plan provide recommendation for the protection and management of Tamaraw at individual wild sites (Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park, Upper Amnay Watershed Region, Aruyan-Malati Tamaraw Reservation and Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary). These sites are isolated from each other and the populations that they support are small enough to be vulnerable to one or more of the following risks (from Schaffer, 1987): environmental catastrophes (rare events causing an extreme depression in births or survival); year-to-year environmentally-driven variation in birth and death rates; chance-driven variation in sex-ratio or birth and death rates; depressed fitness due to chance loss of gene diversity (drift or founder effect), or inbreeding. In combination, these risks can lead to extinction even in the absence of human-mediated threats. Risks can be reduced by managing all populations as a single meta-population, using the heightened capacity for growth and gene diversity retention in larger populations to support persistence, genetic health and growth of smaller ones. Over the longer-term, and provided that populations are large enough, fragmentation can offer genetic advantages over a single, contiguous population of equivalent size, and can help contain the impacts of disease outbreaks and other catastrophes. This section of the document focuses on meta-population-wide species management issues to support a holistic and integrated approach to Tamaraw recovery and conservation across Mindoro.

EXPANDING AND CONNECTING THE META-POPULATION

Over the next 10-years, supporting and accelerating growth in known populations will be key to success. Beyond 10 years, maintaining gene-flow across the meta-population will also become important (Ralls *et al.*, 2018; Frankham *et al.*, 2017). The ability to translocate Tamaraw between populations is a requirement of both strategies. The best available information indicates that currently only the Mts. Iglit-Baco population is sufficiently large and robust as source of Tamaraw for translocation to other sites. Supporting this population to maximize its growth rate is therefore critically important. An *ex situ* conservation breeding program in Mindoro could provide an additional or alternative source of animals for translocation, as well as other conservation benefits. An evaluation of the feasibility, risks and potential advantages of these different translocation sources and strategies, would help decision-makers to weigh the alternatives.

In addition to growing and connecting known populations, adding new ones would improve overall species viability as well as moving the program closer to the vision of “secure populations across Mindoro”. There may be some areas that still support small groups of Tamaraw⁴, as well as some currently unconsidered areas that could be managed to support Tamaraw in future. A systematic review of potential Tamaraw sites, island-wide, using mapping software, would be a valuable first step in planning future expansion of the meta-population.

MONITORING THE META-POPULATION

An annual Tamaraw population monitoring has been in place at Mts. Iglit-Baco for many years and this has provided valuable information on population size and status over time. Setting in place systems for regular, comparable estimates of Tamaraw numbers in other populations would help monitor overall meta-population status and identify problems early. The current fire-based methodology at MIBNP is not ideal and a review of this is needed. Site-appropriate monitoring methods will also need to be developed for each of the other Tamaraw sites.

⁴ for example, during the PHVA workshop, an IP elder reported observation of Tamaraw tracks in the Blue Mountain area, at the border between forest and grassland.

IMPLEMENTATION

A unifying governance structure for the TCMAP, with processes in place for gathering key information, evaluating options and making decisions, will help keep all stakeholders informed and moving forward towards shared goals. A Tamaraw Conservation Coordinating Council (TC3) will be established for this purpose. The TC3 will provide a forum for the implementing partners, will hold review meetings twice a year and will complete a full review of the plan every five (5) years. The TC3 shall be supported by the Tamaraw Conservation Program Office (TCPO) who shall act as the implementing arm of the TC3 on the conservation and management of the Tamaraw population on Mindoro Island. A Tamaraw Conservation and Research Center (TCRC) shall likewise be established, to be managed by the TCPO, to provide science-based approach on the conservation of the Tamaraw.

WORKING ADAPTIVELY

Due to the complexity of the work outlined in the TCMAP and the changing environment in which this work will be conducted, frequent progress reviews will be needed to ensure that activities and resources continue to be directed to the highest priority work and locations. The updating of the TCMAP, should there be the need, shall be facilitated by the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) and DENR MIMAROPA Region through the TCPO, upon review and recommendation by the TC3. In addition to biological needs, decisions about meta-population expansion and management will need to take account of social, political and economic factors. Learning from the results of work carried out and sharing this information program-wide, will help accelerate progress. Policy makers and managers will need ongoing support from stakeholders and access to the most current information, to weigh the risks and potential benefits of different management actions on an ongoing basis, including the risks of delaying or of taking no action. These aspects of adaptive management will be key to the successful implementation of the TCMAP.

META-POPULATION MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are provided to guide meta-population management decisions over the next 10 years. These are based on a combination of conservation genetics rules of thumb and on Tamaraw PVA models which were built using the best information and estimates available at time of writing.

Figure 21 emphasizes current distribution and potential range expansion. It will be refined over time as further information becomes available on some sites and following discussion and agreement with stakeholders.

THERE ARE MANY GAPS IN OUR KNOWLEDGE OF THE POPULATION DYNAMICS OF TAMARAW. AS THE PROJECT MOVES FORWARD AND NEW INFORMATION BECOMES AVAILABLE, PVA MODELS AND ANY RECOMMENDATIONS BASED ON THEM, SHOULD BE REVIEWED AND ADJUSTED.

RECOMMENDED META-POPULATION SIZE

Targets for meta-population size should accommodate both biological viability of the species and, beyond that, aspirations for the broader ecology of the Island. The minimum target below, of 2200 living Tamaraw in Mindoro, accounts only for the biological viability component. It represents the critical threshold for long-term, ongoing genetic health⁵ and is expected to confer a 100-year extinction risk of zero, assuming a well-protected environment.

Recommended minimum meta-population size for Tamaraw

= > 2200 individuals

PVA models indicate that implementing the actions recommended in this plan could see this number reached or exceeded by 2050. Over the 10-year life of this plan it should be possible to increase numbers to more than 700 Tamaraw (estimated range 670 – 770).

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM POPULATION SIZE

Given the same conditions, larger populations will be more robust than smaller ones and all attempts should be made to maximize the carrying capacity (and therefore the Tamaraw population size) at each site. However, at some designated sites, expansion to larger numbers may not be possible. As a guide, models indicate that **with zero poaching**, a population of 75 Tamaraw carries a low risk of extinction over a 100-year period, with inbreeding accumulation likely to remain below internationally accepted thresholds for captive programs. At sites where numbers sit below this, or where poaching remains present, more frequent and more resource-intensive management intervention is likely to be needed.

Recommended minimum target for populations = > 75 individuals

RECOMMENDED MINIMUM NUMBER OF FOUNDERS FOR NEW POPULATIONS

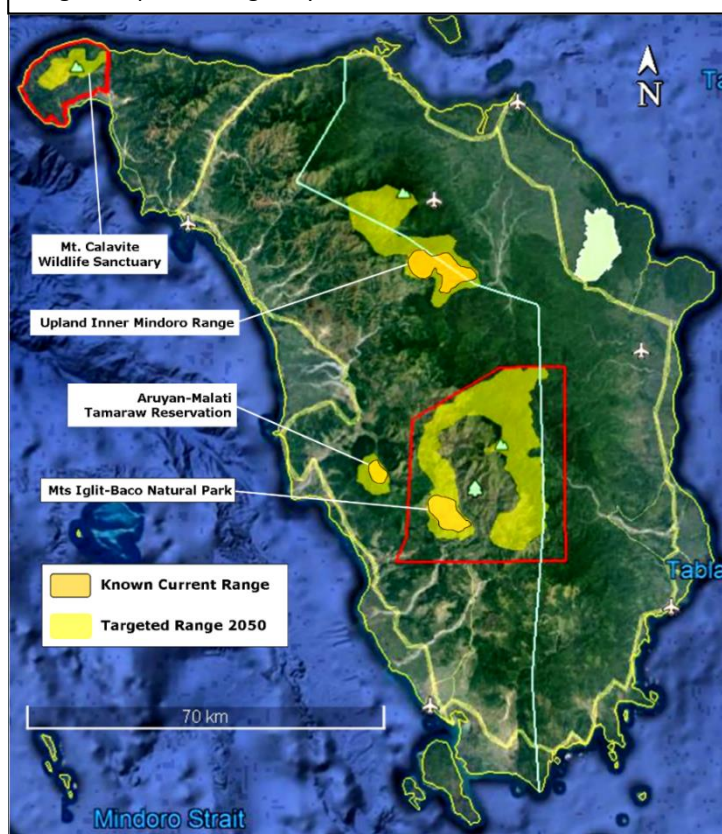
PVA models indicate that under zero poaching, release cohorts of at least 20 individuals have a strong chance of establishment and growth. To provide for genetic health, rules of thumb recommend initiating populations with 20-30 effective founders, collected from across the species' range. Note that releases can be phased.

Recommended Target⁶ = 20-30

⁵ Targets a genetically effective size of 1000 (from Frankham et al., 2014), assuming an N_e/N ratio of 0.45, estimated from the mean of nine ungulate studies (Frankham, 1995).

⁶ Note: Establishment of *ex situ* populations may require fewer individuals due to ability to manage some risks more closely.

Figure 21. Mindoro Island - current Tamaraw distribution and targeted species range in year 2050.



Skewing the sex-ratio of release cohorts towards females provides faster population growth but also faster accumulation of inbreeding. Decisions about the composition (age and gender) of release cohorts should be taken with advice from experts in behavior and management.

Table 1. Estimate of meta-population status, giving population size estimates, estimates for 2050 without further conservation action, estimates for 2028 and 2050 with recommended action, and the major challenges to achieving these results.

	Current size	Future: no further action	Future: with recommended action		Major challenges (confirmed at the 2018 workshop)
Site	2018	2050	2028	2050	
Mts Iglit-Baco NP (all areas)	400 - 500	< 400	> 650 ⁷	> 1500	Space for further growth is now limited and may decline in future due to impact of fires and invasive plants and uncontrolled hunting from residing IP communities.
Upper Amnay	10 - 60	Uncertain	20 - 120 ⁸	Preliminary estimates suggest > 700 in total across these sites	Road development and resumption of mining could prevent population recovery. Current uncertainty about numbers, distribution and hunting intensity may hinder action.
Aruyan-Malati	3-15	Poor			Too few animals. Little to no chance of recovery without supplementation.
Mount Calavite	4 - 6	Poor			Too few animals, if any. No chance of recovery without supplementation.
Total estimates	417-581		>700	>2200	

GOALS FOR META-POPULATION MANAGEMENT

Goal 1. Mobilize for Tamaraw all natural areas of Mindoro that are suitable.

Sub-goal 1a: Maximize capacity of known sites

Sub-goal 1b: Identify the location of all remaining Tamaraw

Sub-goal 1c: Mobilize additional, previously unconsidered sites for Tamaraw in Mindoro

Goal 2. Actively manage all Tamaraw as a meta-population.

Sub-goal 2a: Ensure regular meta-population-wide reporting on key parameters and use this to support effective management

Sub-goal 2b: Determine whether an *ex situ* conservation breeding program for Tamaraw should be established in Mindoro

Sub-goal 2c: Develop a Tamaraw translocation program to facilitate recovery of the species

Goal 3. Secure resources and political will for the Tamaraw meta-population.

⁷ Based on an ongoing but conservative growth rate (4% p.a.) from the mean of current estimates (N=450).

⁸ Based on ongoing but conservative growth rate (4% p.a.) from the range of current estimates (N= 17 – 81)

GOALS, SUB-GOALS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: META-POPULATION MANAGEMENT

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
GOAL 1. Mobilize for Tamaraw all natural areas of Mindoro that are suitable																								
Sub-goal 1A. Maximise capacity of known sites																								
1A.1	Identify additional areas of potentially suitable contiguous habitat, to extend existing sites	Areas are identified and mapped	X	X									100	100										TCP, NGOs, with partners
1A.2	Harness existing initiatives within Mindoro to identify and develop potential habitat corridors to connect current or potential populations	Existing initiatives are identified, collaboration is established			X	X									60	80								TCP, with partners
Sub-goal 1b: Identify the location of all remaining Tamaraw																								
1B.1	Collect reports from communities on Tamaraw sightings outside known Tamaraw sites	Collated reports are shared with TC3	X	X									240	150										TCP, with partners
1B.2	Follow-up with surveys where information looks promising	Reports with map(s) from follow-up surveys are shared with TC3	X	X	X								600	700	200									TCP, NGOs, Academe, site stakeholders

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
Sub-goal 1c: Mobilize additional, previously unconsidered sites for Tamaraw in Mindoro																								
1C.1	Carry out Island-wide habitat suitability mapping to identify likely candidates and follow-up with socio-economic & environmental assessments	Reports with maps are shared		X	X									180	330									TCP, with partners
1C.2	Assess political acceptability	Reports			X	X									50	50								TCP, with partners
1C.3	Initiate the site planning process	Planning is in progress				X	X								100	100								TCP, with partners
GOAL 2. Actively manage all Tamaraw as a meta-population																								
Sub-goal 2A. Ensure regular meta-population wide reporting on key parameters and use this to support effective management																								
2A.1	Implement site appropriate monitoring methods and population monitoring meta-population wide	Appropriate monitoring methods are in place at all sites and generating useful information			X	X									300	300								TCP, proposed monitoring group within TC3 (NGOs)
2A.2	Monitor densities of Tamaraw over time, in different habitat types, to support evaluation of both existing and potential new sites (info to be used in conjunction with PVA-derived MVP estimates)	Guidelines for calculating site carrying capacities for Tamaraw and minimum size of area needed to support a viable population (accounting for different habitat types)			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	TCP, with partners

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
2A.3	Compile an annual report on meta-population status for the TC3	Annual report is shared		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	TCP, with partners
Sub-goal 2B. Determine whether an <i>ex situ</i> breeding program should be established in Mindoro																							
2B.1	Carry out a study to explore the need for an <i>ex situ</i> program and the feasibility of delivering this, using the IUCN SSC <i>Ex situ</i> Guidelines as a framework. Include a cost-benefit assessment of <i>in situ</i> versus <i>ex situ</i> sources of animals for translocation	Recommendations on the role and requirements of an <i>ex situ</i> breeding program in Mindoro Agreement on the relative costs and benefits of using captive versus wild-sourced Tamaraw as source for translocation	X	X	X								100	200	200								TCP, NGOs, AWCSG, ZSL, WRS, CCTU
2B.2	Conduct consultation with stakeholders on options proposed through the Feasibility Study prior to any decision being taken	Consultation completed. Document demonstrating sufficient agreement across parties on priorities		X	X									200	200								TCP, with partners
2B.3	Use the results of the Feasibility Study and other relevant factors, to decide on whether to establish an <i>ex situ</i> program	Decision on whether to pursue an <i>ex situ</i> program in Mindoro			X	X																	DENR Secretary

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
2B.4	Implement the decision as required	To be determined					X	X	X	X	X	X											TCP, with partners
Sub-goal 2c. Develop a Tamaraw translocation program to facilitate recovery of the species.																							
2C.1	Conduct a feasibility study on Tamaraw translocation, to find new populations or reinforce existing ones, including evaluation of alternative sources (see also 2B.1)	Completion of feasibility study and final report delivered to DENR	X	X	X								100	200	200								TCP, NGOs, AWCSG, ZSL, WRS, CCTU
2C.2	Conduct consultation with stakeholders on options proposed through the Feasibility Study prior to any decision being taken	Consultation completed. Document demonstrating sufficient agreement across parties on priorities		X	X									200	200								TCP, with partners
2C.3	Complete habitat assessments for potential translocation sites to ensure habitat suitability and appropriate threat levels	Documented habitat assessments	X	X	X								150	150	150								TCP, with partners
2C.4	With stakeholders, prioritize sites for reintroduction/reinforce ment and develop a translocation plan for each	Translocation plan for each prioritized site, including all necessary permissions, timeframes, recommended sources of animals and methods			X	X									100	100							TCP, with partner, IUCN SSC AWCSG, ZSL, CCTU

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
2C.5	Implement translocation plans and update translocation program recommendations as new information becomes available	Animals are translocated as recommended; Translocation program recommendations are up-to-date					X	X	X	X	X	X					2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	TCP, with partners including IUCN SSC AWCSG, ZSL, CCTU
GOAL 3. Secure resources and political will for the Tamaraw meta-population																							
3.1	Integrate Tamaraw and TCMAP into long-term island-wide development and management plans of both provinces	Evident consideration of Tamaraw and TCMAP in provincial mgt. plans		X	X	X									100	100	150						TCP, RED, DENR-BMB and partners
3.2	Identify potential agencies/organizations other than DENR to fund TCMAP activities to integrate into their own local government and departmental plans	Potential organizations identified through the TC3		X	X	X									50	100	100						TCP, RED, DENR-BMB and partners
3.3	Capital Outlay for Construction/Rehabilitati on of TCP Office in San Jose, Occidental Mindoro				X											10,000							DPWH, DENR
3.4	Capital Outlay for construction and Establishment of Tamaraw Research Center					X											15,000						DOST, DENR, LGU

MOUNTS IGLIT-BACO NATURAL PARK

Scope: Covers areas within Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park that either currently support Tamaraw or could in the future – a “Core Zone of Monitoring” (CZM), a “Migration Corridor,” a large “Expansion Area” and an area currently used for cattle ranching – the “Cattle Ranchland Area” (see Figure 22).

INTRODUCTION

Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park is the current strong-hold of the Tamaraw. Focused conservation attention in the past three decades has led to consistent growth of this population, to its current size of approximately 400-500 individuals. However, over the past 30 years the area occupied by the population appears to have contracted to an area within the “Core Zone of Monitoring”, where most of the patrolling effort occurs. Meanwhile, a population previously found on the east side of the Park seems to have vanished. Within the CZM, the regular practice of controlled burning (both by IPs and by DENR to assist the annual population monitoring), encroachment by invasive alien species of plants taking advantage of the fire regime, and ongoing hunting pressure (both by IPs and by lowlanders) threaten the future of this species in the Park. In addition, increasing pressure from other land uses prevents dispersal of Tamaraw, limiting population growth and keeping numbers constrained within the carrying capacity of the area secured today.

With concerted management efforts there is potential to re-expand the Tamaraw population into its most recent range within and beyond the “Core Zone of Monitoring”. Restoring habitat in this area will benefit the Park’s biodiversity as well as residing IP communities who rely on the abundance of natural resources for their well-being. Further to this, building a safe “Migration Corridor” of land previously occupied by Tamaraw would support dispersal outside the CZM towards the North, into a large “Expansion Area” of remote and potentially suitable habitat. Finally, an area of the Park currently used for cattle ranching by non-tenure migrants could, through habitat restoration and translocation, support a new population of Tamaraw. Once established, this population could also grow outwards into the “Expansion Area” (see Figure 3). Realizing this potential will involve close consultation and collaboration with resident IP communities and investment in rangers and other law enforcement mechanisms. Population models indicate that this action could increase Tamaraw numbers at Mt. Iglit-Baco to over 1500 individuals by 2050, which under continued favorable conditions could be expected to show long-term viability.

It should be noted that a shift away from regular burning, coupled with active forest restoration, may reduce the carrying capacity of the CZM for Tamaraw by reducing the availability of preferred food. However, provided that the other elements of the plan proceed successfully, there will be overall benefits to the Park in biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, and overall benefits to Tamaraw as the population is supported to grow outwards into other areas.

The Tamaraw population in MIBNP is of critical importance to the success of recovery efforts. For the foreseeable future, this population will house most individuals of the species. As such it will be an important source of founders both for new populations and to supplement struggling population fragments elsewhere in Mindoro.

Other relevant plans: Protected Area Management Plan of MIBNP, 2019-2028; Final Draft, ADSDPP of *Tau Buid*; ADSDPP of *Buhid-Bangon*; ICCAs (*Buhid-Bangon*).

GOALS FOR MOUNTS IGLIT-BACO NATURAL PARK

Goal 4. Secure the current Tamaraw population and expand its distribution within and beyond the Core Zone of Monitoring.

Goal 5. Restore the Cattle Ranchland Area to create a new site for Tamaraw.

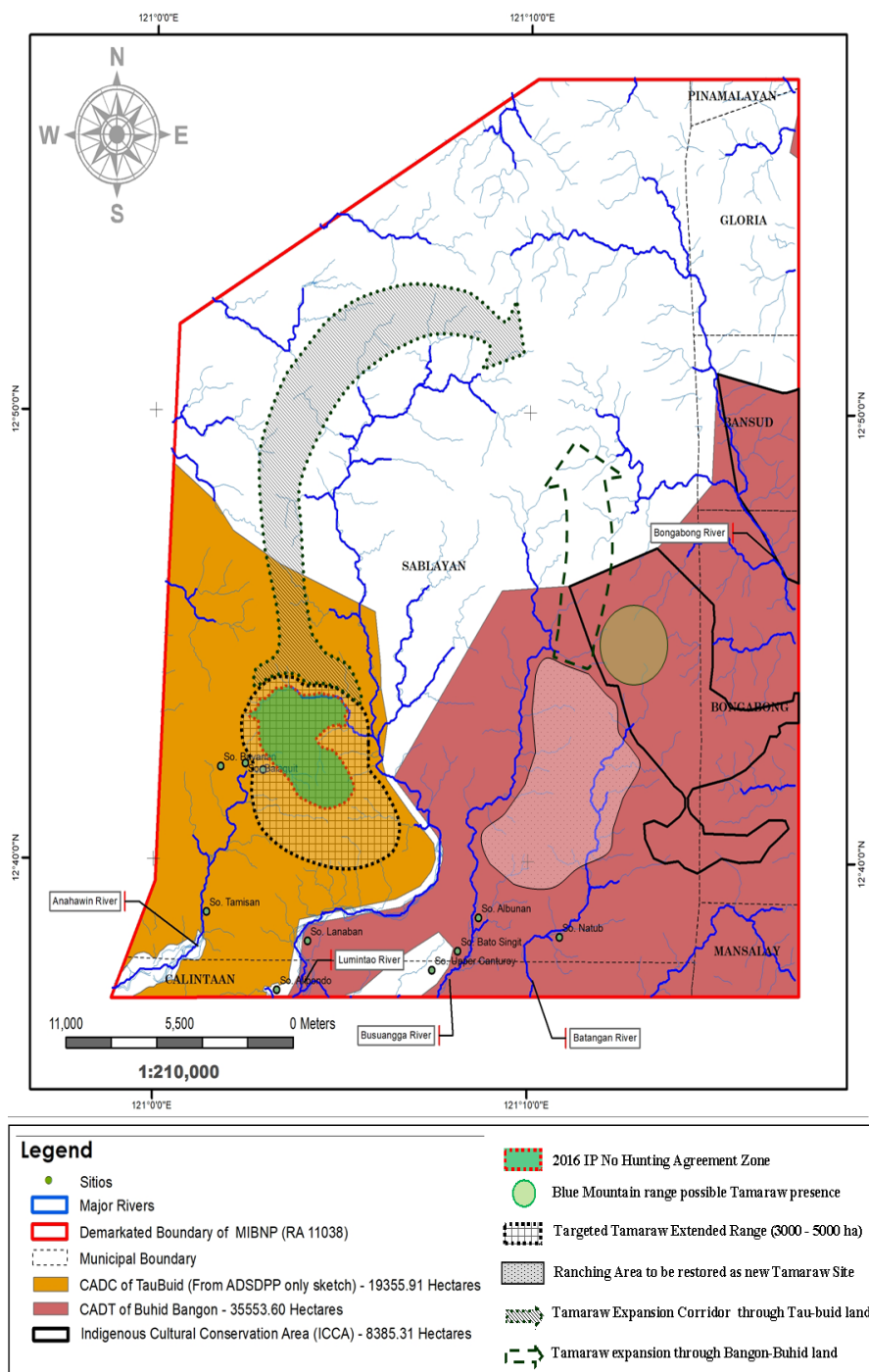
Goal 6. Initiate a shift in habitat management and promote restoration of natural vegetation in the Core Zone of Monitoring.

Goal 7. Harmonize Tamaraw conservation goals with the Residing Mangyan Tribes' Plans for their Ancestral Domain (ADSDPP), respecting their cultural identity and traditional practices in the area.

Goal 8. Strengthen law enforcement and wildlife crime prevention.

Potential challenges: Lack of funding, insurgency, concerns of IPs about the proposed expansion of Tamaraw distribution range; the employment status of rangers; lack of commitment from LGUs and from other relevant government agencies.

Figure 22. Illustrates the proposed expansion and managed movement of the MIBNP Tamaraw population.



Note: for more detailed maps of the distribution of Tamaraw in Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park see Appendix I

GOALS, SUB-GOALS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: MOUNTS IGLIT-BACO NATURAL PARK

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
GOAL 4. Restore the Cattle Ranchland Area to create a new site for Tamaraw																								
Sub-goal 4A. Phase out ranching																								
4A.1	Organize inter-agency meetings for the gradual phase out (ongoing)	Meetings conducted for as long as they are needed	X	X	X	X	X						500	200	200	200	200							Ranchers, IPs Leaders, LGUs, NCIP, PENRO
4A.2	Secure agreement with IP communities for the conversion of the Ranchland Area to a Tamaraw site	Signed Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC)	X										160											TCP, IP Leaders, NCIP, PENRO
4A.3	Finalize phase out agreement: <ul style="list-style-type: none">identify resettlement area for cattle;finalise timeline of phase out agreement	Resettlement area and timeline for phase out are agreed through a plan (relocation/phase out plan)	X	X									200	200										Ranchers, Provincial Government, PENRO and CENROs
4A.4	Implement phase out agreement	No cattle remain	X	X	X	X	X						150	150	150	150	150							

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
Sub-goal 4B. Rehabilitate Cattle Ranch Area																								
4B.1	Conduct rapid ecological surveys and vegetation mapping of the entire ranching area, identifying most suitable places for a long-term rehabilitation plan and Tamaraw reintroduction	Documented surveys Zoning system of rehabilitation plan drafted, locating Tamaraw reintroduction sites with map(s)	X	X									450	400										Academe, appropriate local NGOs, ERDB
4B.2	Conduct a socio-agro-ecological investigation through an agro-ecosystem analysis (AEA) defining bio-physical and socio-economic conditions of the targeted areas	Technical report and recommendations		X	X								450	600										NGOs, academe. experts (IAF Ph), NCIP, <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> tribe
4B.3	Formulate a comprehensive rehabilitation design including biosecurity assessment, habitat restoration plan and bio-cultural development scheme	Rehabilitation plan is completed and approved by concerned parties			X										400									ERDB, TCP, NGOs with specific expertise

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
4B.4	Identify affected IP families and concerned <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> communities; Integrate them into the full process through temporary compensation, active involvement in the restoration phase and long-term socio-economic participation in the new wildlife-oriented land-use plan	List of families, settlements, geo-localization and mapping; new socio-economic activities identified and developed with affected IP families and communities		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	160	ERDB, TCP, NCIP, relevant NGOs
4B.5	Promote the concept of the rehabilitation plan in order to secure additional funding	Commitments from national government agencies (DENR, DOST), LGUs, local NGO, donor agencies		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	ERDB, TCP
4B.6	Endorse and initiate the new IP land-use plan in accordance with <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> ADSDPP and PAMP	Land-use plan reflected and implemented in the PA zoning				X	X	X	X	X	X	X				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	<i>Buhid-Bangon</i> tribe, TCP, NCIP
4B.7	Launch the habitat restoration phase on selected future Tamaraw sites	Activities are implemented and monitored				X	X	X	X	X	X	X				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	DENR, <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> tribe, partner organizations

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
Sub-goal 4C. Plan and implement Tamaraw translocation																								
4C.1	Conduct a feasibility study on the pertinence, needs and acceptance to relevant stakeholders, of <i>ex situ</i> intervention, and of a translocation program	Completion of feasibility study and final report delivered to DENR and PAMB	X	X	X								100	200	200									TCP, NGOs, AWCSG, ZSL, WRS, CCTU
4C.2	Develop a translocation plan for Tamaraw (including methodology and implementation mechanism)	Approved/adopted translocation plan & MOA among stakeholders			X	X									120	300								As above
4C.3	Secure all permits from IPs and government	Permits on hand					X	X									10	10	10	10	10	10		As above
4C.4	Implement translocation program including acclimatization phase	Monitoring and evaluation reports						X										2,000						As above
GOAL 5. Secure the current Tamaraw population and expand Tamaraw distribution within and beyond the Core Zone of Monitoring																								
Sub-goal 5A. Harmonize PAMP for MIBNP zoning system with TCMAP and <i>Tau-Buid</i> Ancestral Domain status and plan																								
5A.1	Harmonize objectives and zoning system of PAMP with TCMAP targets and models	Plans are aligned and Tamaraw expansion zone map approved by both Offices	X																					TCP

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
5A.2	Translate the sub-zones map of Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park into Filipino language and Mangyan dialect	Translated Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park sub-zones map(s) are available		X										200									TCP, NGOs
5A.3	Review the current status of <i>Tau Buid</i> Ancestral Domain Claims and other initiatives of the tribe	Supporting documents	X	X									50	50									NCIP, relevant NGOs, LGU
5A.4	Consult <i>Tau Buid</i> Leader(s) and reach agreement on the proposed harmonized rationale and objectives of TCMAP/ PAMP	Plan(s) and maps endorsed/ accepted by <i>Tau Buid</i>	X	X									276	276									TCP, NCIP, <i>Tau Buid</i> leaders
Sub-goal 5B. Restore Tamaraw presence to its most recent range in the Core Zone of Monitoring (Tamaraw Extended Range 3,000 to 5,000 ha)																							
5B.1	Document the current living conditions, land-use system and hunting practices of the IP communities concerned with the CZM Tamaraw range (socio-agro-ecological investigation)	Technical reports, documents and data are available	X	X	X								200	250	250								Partner organizations and experts
5B.2	Design and agree with IPs a strategy to expand the distribution of Tamaraw following the zonation of the Park	Agreed plan for expansion of Tamaraw distribution		X	X	X								160	160	160							TCP, NCIP, IPs

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
5B.3	Define with concerned communities a traditional hunting management model allowing Tamaraw movement towards targeted areas (including use of traps and fire regime)	Agreed model and documented maps		X	X	X								200	352	200							TCP, NCIP, IPs
5B.4	Validate and delineate the proposed CZM expansion area / hunting management on the ground with concerned IP communities	Endorsed technical maps along with landmarks			X	X									250	200							TCP, IPs
5B.5	Implement use and regulation of the agreed zones - Including provision of Capital Outlay for construction of 2 rangers' stations in expanded habitat	Monitoring and evaluation reports			X	X	X	X							4,000								TCP, IPs, NCIP
5B.6	Conduct habitat restoration based on IP bio-cultural plans as defined in GOALs 6 and 7	Monitoring and evaluation reports				X	X	X	X	X	X	X				100	100	100	100	100	100	100	TCP, IPs, NCIP

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
Sub-goal 5C. Establish a Migration Corridor towards the north of the Core Zone of Monitoring, through the <i>Tau Buid</i> Ancestral Domain and Central Wilderness Zone																							
5C.1	Document the current living conditions, land-use system and hunting practice of the upland IP communities (<i>Hubads</i>) concerned by the corridor plan (socio-agro-ecological investigation)	Technical reports, documents data		X	X	X	X								350	350	350	350					Partner organizations and experts
5C.2	Design and agree with concerned upland IPs establishment of dispersal corridor along with modalities on use, regulation and rights for DENR monitoring	Agreement and documenting map				X	X	X	X	X	X					100	100	100	100	100	100		TCP, NCIP, IPs
5C.3	With IPs, validate and delineate the proposed corridor on site with landmarks and geo-mapping	Endorsed technical maps along with landmarks				X	X	X	X	X	X	X				50	50	50	50	50	50	50	TCP, NCIP, IPs
5C.4	Implement use and regulation on the agreed zones	Monitoring and evaluation reports					X	X	X	X	X	X											TCP, NCIP, IPs
5C.5	Conduct habitat restoration and IP bio-cultural plans as defined in GOALs 6 and 7	Monitoring and evaluation reports					X	X	X	X	X	X					100	100	100	100	100	100	TCP, IPs, NCIP

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
GOAL 6. Initiate a shift in habitat management and promote restoration of natural vegetation in the Core Zone of Monitoring																							
6.1	Initiate a grassland burning reduction plan for the DENR monitoring zone	Reduction in grassland burning of more than 80% over the next 4 years	X	X	X	X							100	200	200	200							TCP, PAMO with partner NGOs
6.2	Develop and test an alternative population/abundance monitoring methodology that does not require burning	Vetted options for monitoring	X	X									400	400									TCP, PAMO, partners
6.3	Allow natural regeneration	Semesterly reports on habitat quality	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	TCP, PAMO, LGUs
6.4	Conduct botanical analysis and ecological monitoring (including invasive alien plant species) in areas where fire regime has ceased	Technical report and monitoring report		X	X	X	X	X						600	600	600	600	600					PAMO, TCP, DENR partners and academe
6.5	Experiment with eradication/control methods to hamper regrowth of non-palatable, highly competitive plants (<i>hagonoy</i>)	Technical report and monitoring report		X	X	X	X							450	450	450	450						TCP, PAMO

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
6.6	Develop and generalize eradication/control operations for invasive alien species (IAS)	Regularly updated map of extent of IAS			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	PAMO with partners
6.7	With IPS, establish a list of trees and plants to be used for active reforestation intervention	List of trees validated by IPs		X	X								400	400									PAMO, TCP
6.8	Establish a habitat restoration plan including replantation scheme, zoning schedule, starting inside the SPZ and out to residing IP areas (link to 6.2 and GOAL 7)	Two-phase Habitat Restoration Plan			X	X	X						100	100	100								PAMO, TCP
6.9	Actively restore forest including natural fire breaks	Regularly updated map of restored forest				X	X	X	X	X	X	X			100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	PAMO, TCP, IPs
GOAL 7. Harmonize Tamaraw conservation goals with the Residing Mangyan Tribes’ Plans for their Ancestral Domain (ADSDPP), respecting their cultural identity and traditional practices in the area																							
Sub-goal 7A. Integrate <i>Tau Buid</i> cultural practices and the Tribe’s claims and rights into the Tamaraw conservation strategy																							
7A.1	Inform IPs of the TCMAP and ensure a translated version of the document	Report on meetings with IPs; Translated TCMAP is available	X	X									100	100									IPs

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
7A.2	Gather information on the Indigenous Political System of the <i>Tau-buid</i> , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">information on customary law and the way in which internal contraventions are managed, thus, to harmonize it with the law enforcement of the Park;use of natural resources and share of the living space among the members (land allocation)	Report on indigenous political system of <i>Tau-buid</i>	X	X	X								200	400	400									NCIP and other partners
7A.3	Assist <i>Tau-buid</i> tribe in securing their CADT	CADT awarded to <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe	X	X	X								150	150	150									PAMO, NCIP, NGO(s)
7A.4	Assist the <i>Tau-buid</i> tribe in the formulation/ updating of their ADSDPP (with draft exists for 2013-2018) & ensure that there are clear policies in favour of Tamaraw conservation in the overlap area between the Ancestral Domain claim by <i>Tau-buid</i> and the Tamaraw habitat Expansion Area stated in the ADSDPP	ADSDPP with clear plan on Tamaraw conservation and management; ADSDPP formulated/ updated	X	X	X								420	420	420									PAMO, TCP, NCIP, NGO(s)

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
7A.5	Harmonize PA law enforcement plan with local IP customary law and agree on modality of implementation between the tribe and law enforcers	Reports on meetings/ agreements with IPs		X	X	X								200	200	200							PAMO, TCP, NCIP, Tribal Leaders
7A.6	Policies in the Tamaraw habitat expansion area agreed by <i>Tau-buid</i> leaders and members	No reported violation of agreed policies in the Tamaraw expansion area; Signed FPIC by all IP leaders				X	X	X	X	X	X	X											PAMO, TCP, NCIP, IP Tribal Leaders
7A.7	Support IPs to adjust their farming systems to ensure food security, to re-introduce complexity to the landscape and diversity in farming systems (e.g. agroforestry techniques, permaculture, and appropriate technology)	Environmentally sensitive farming techniques adopted by IPs (modernized <i>Tau-buid</i> and <i>Hubads</i> addressed with specific strategies and means)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	400	200	200	200	200	100	100	100	100	100	NCIP, DA, DOT, OMSC, TESDA, MBCFI
Sub-goal 7B. Support and enhance the <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> ADSDPP in the context of the ranching rehabilitation plan																							
7B.1	Obtain copies of the <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> ADSDPP, CADT and ICCA plans and maps	Documents are available	X	X																		<i>Buhid-Bangon</i> Tribe, NCIP, PAMO	

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
7B.2	Inform the <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> tribe of the TCMAP and ensure availability of translated versions of the document	Report of meetings with IPs. Translated TCMAP is available	X	X									100	100									<i>Buhid-Bangon</i> Tribe, NCIP, PAMO
7B.3	Gather information on the indigenous political system of <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> tribe, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> information on customary law and the way in which internal contraventions are managed, thus to harmonize it with the law enforcement of the Park; use of natural resources and share of the living space among the members (land allocation) 	Report on indigenous political system of <i>Buhid-Bangon</i>		X	X									520	520								PAMO, NCIP and other partners
7B.4	Align actions 4B.1 and 4B.4 according to the documents pertained in 7B.1 and information about the stage of development of plans	Harmonized TCMAP-specific sub-goals with <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> plans and implementation stage			X	X									150	150							PAMO, <i>Buhid-Bangon</i> tribe

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
7B.5	Harmonize PA law enforcement plan with local IP customary law and agree on modality of implementation between the tribe and law enforcers	Plans and methods harmonized				X										50							TCP, PAMO, IPs
7B.6	Initiate bio-cultural landscape development within and beyond the rehabilitation area (linked with 4B.5)	Agreed plans and actions are initiated				X	X	X	X	X	X	X											PAMO
GOAL 8. Strengthen law enforcement and wildlife crime prevention																							
Sub-goal 8A. Improve capacities of officers to conduct their duties in the field																							
8A.1	Develop adaptive management planning by implementing SMART (Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool) for the monitoring of illegal and unwanted activities 8A.1a Capital Outlay for the procurement of gadgets for SMART (e.g. handheld devices, database hardware and software, and ICT equipment	SMART is used by the PAMO and TCP to collect and analyze field data, regular reports are used for further strategic planning; regular reports on efforts presented to the PAMB	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	250	250	250								TCP, PAMO, DAF, PAMB, GWC

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
8A.2	Conduct advanced wildlife crime prevention training for Tamaraw rangers, park rangers and management staff	Wildlife crime prevention and law enforcement efforts are complemented by advanced tactics in which field staff show competency	X	X									750	750										TCP, PAMO, DAF, GWC
8A.3	Improve area coverage and ranger effectiveness to decrease illegal and unwanted hunting activity 8A.3a Capital Outlay for the procurement of vehicles and equipment for Quick Response Team (QRT) [4,000 Capital Outlay for procurement of vehicles (e.g. elf truck drop side, motorcycles) and gadgets (e.g. communication devices, firearms, ammunitions, and other para military equipment) for QRT]	Increase the number and competency of rangers and staff with law enforcement authority decrease in recorded illegal and unwanted hunting activity	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10,500	6,500	6,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	TCP, PAMO

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
8A.4	Improve employment and working conditions for rangers (contracts, salaries, equipment, facilities)	Index of incentive – permanent contracts for TCP staff; improved equipment, living conditions, incentives and benefits for field staff; improved ranger performance/ morale	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	TCP, DENR
8A.5	Establish effective communication system between field officers and their offices	Field and long-distance communication tools are operational	X	X									80	80									TCP, PAMOs, LGUs
8A.6	Clarify mandates and duties of Tamaraw rangers and PAMO park rangers	Duty and scope of actions are clearly defined	X																				DENR
8A.7	Deputize all enforcement staff for arrest of perpetrators of illegal activity	Deputation papers to all field officers		X	X									100	100								DENR
8A.8	Introduce new technologies and techniques to prevent illegal activities (camera traps, wildlife crime science) 8A.8a Capital Outlay for Procurement of devices (e.g. camera traps, body cameras, drones) amounting to 440,000.00	New technologies and techniques are tested and/or assessed and implemented effectively	X	X	X								200	200 & 440 CO	200								PAMO, TCP with partners

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
8A.9	Develop specific cultural sensitivity training to <i>siganon</i> (non-IP) rangers about IP culture and rights	Training conducted, <i>siganon</i> rangers demonstrate competence; reduction in number of observed and reported conflicts with IPs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	TCP, IP leaders
Sub-goal 8B. Improve law enforcement mechanisms at the office level																							
8B.1	Reactivate and strengthen the Barangay Tamaraw Conservation Council	Report on regular meetings	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	TCP, LGUs, partners
8B.2	Establish and strengthen multi-agency enforcement teams and operations	Available logbook documenting patrol reports including apprehensions; SMART reports; commitments of support from team members; number of capacity building activities	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	TCP, PNP, DENR, other concerned agencies
8B.3	Complete multi-stakeholder Law Enforcement Forum & modules initiated in 2016	All modules completed	X	X	X								250	250	250								PAMO, TCP, DENR

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										PAMO will work with:
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
8B.4	Implement ordinance and recommendations of Law Enforcement Forum outputs	Ordinance in force			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	TBC
8B.5	Strengthen public awareness and coordination with Barangay officials and LGUs on laws implemented inside the PA according to the ENIPAS Act	Campaigns implemented	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	LGUs, TCP, PAMOs.

UPPER AMNAY WATERSHED REGION

Scope: Upper Amnay Watershed Region at the border between Oriental and Occidental Mindoro

INTRODUCTION

A population of Tamaraw was confirmed in the Upper Amnay Watershed Region in 2018. The overall size and exact extent of this population remain uncertain. Estimates range from 10 to 70+ which, though a small number, makes this potentially the second largest remaining Tamaraw population in Mindoro. The variety of habitats where Tamaraw were assessed in this region (mountain, mossy forest and tropical highland biotopes) are very different to the grassland habitat of MIBNP, suggesting that Tamaraw are more ecologically flexible than previously assumed. Further assessment in Upper Amnay (Lamlamayan, Gimparay, & Batuoy-Liyao) as well as additional surveys in adjacent areas are required to improve knowledge of the status of Tamaraw in this region and the quality and distribution of suitable habitats.

Even though this population is protected by its remoteness, there is a need to engage in further collaboration with local *Alangan* communities and concerned authorities to limit and prevent illegal activities and habitat encroachment in this region. Building a mixed monitoring and protection team with sufficient resources and equipment would be the first step towards securing the continuing growth of this population towards robust numbers. Executive Order 23 (s2017) imposed a country-wide ban on logging in natural and residual forests. In the case of Upper Amnay, where the majority overlaps with an ancestral domain, Section 2.2 states, “Tree cutting associated with cultural practices pursuant to IPRA may be allowed only subject to strict compliance with existing guidelines of the DENR.” Ranger and volunteer intervention can ensure that tree-cutting is kept to non-commercial volumes by IP communities, while awareness raising and community empowerment can ensure that these IP communities are not used (or abused) as fronts by commercial logging entities.

Currently, the greatest risk to this population is the development of an inter-provincial road which could bring greater accessibility and disturbance into remaining Tamaraw habitats. All efforts should be made to reconcile the road project’s economic objectives with social and environmental safeguards. Without formal area protection measures, the area is also potentially at risk to mining operations when the 25-year provincial moratoriums of both Oriental and Occidental Mindoro provinces expire in 2027 and 2034 respectively.

The assessed Tamaraw population is located within the Titled Ancestral Domain of the Mangyan *Alangan* Tribe. Therefore, any conservation action must involve the Tribe and be in line with its Land Development Plan.

Other relevant plans: ADSDPP, Forest Land Use Plan and Comprehensive Land Use Plan of LGU Santa Cruz.

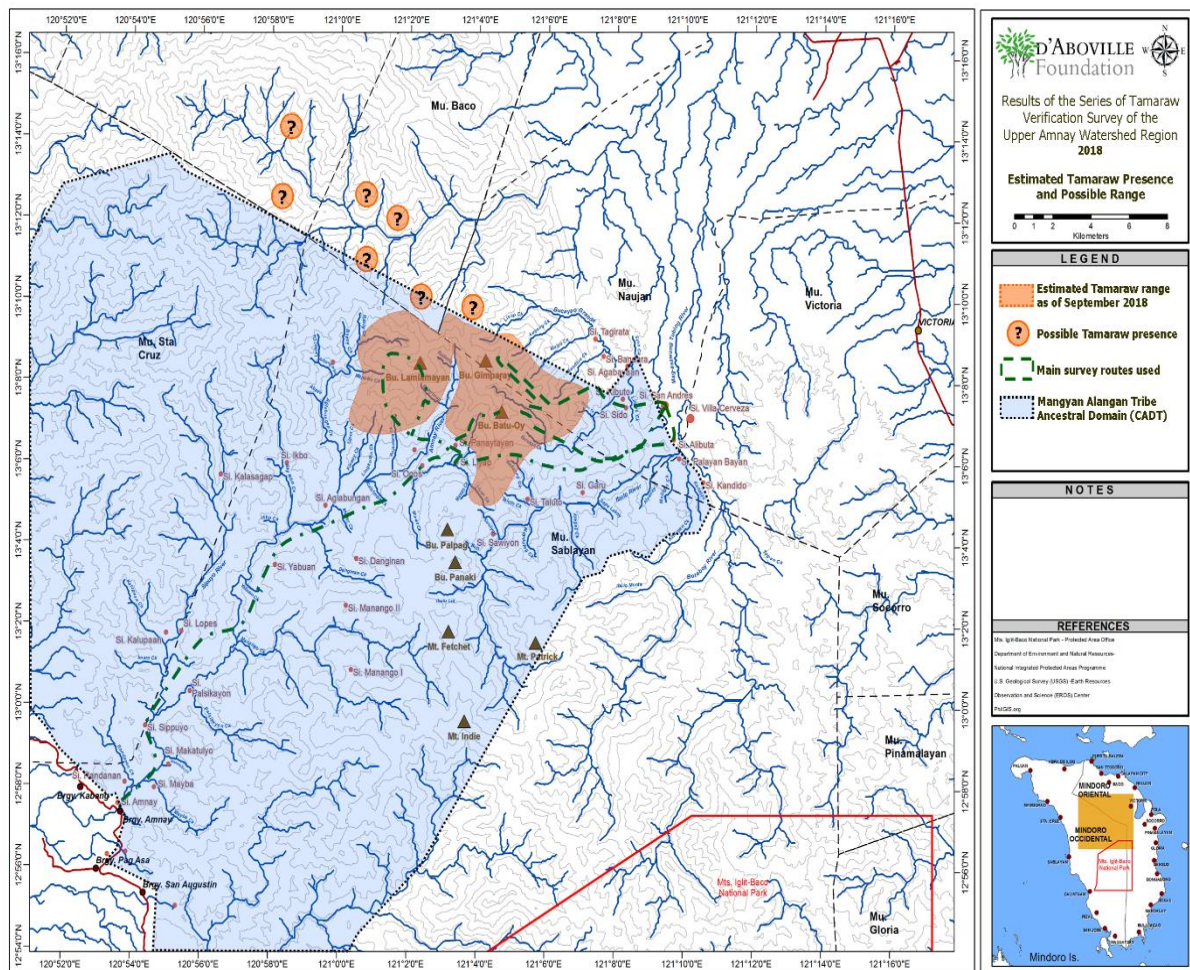
GOALS FOR UPPER AMNAY WATERSHED REGION

Goal 9. Initiate regular monitoring and patrolling efforts to address threats such as poaching, logging, and habitat encroachment.

Goal 10. Conduct a comprehensive socio-environmental assessment of the region to assist integration of conservation objectives with the ongoing socio-economic dynamic of the *Alangan* Tribe.

Goal 11. Create an “*Alangan – Tamaraw Protected Landscape*” under an ICCA, LCA or OECM category, to underpin area protection measures.

Goal 12. Avoid or mitigate negative impacts of road development (interprovincial cross road).



GOALS, SUB-GOALS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: UPPER AMNAY WATERSHED REGION

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
GOAL 9. Initiate regular monitoring and patrolling efforts to address threats such as poaching, logging and habitat encroachment																								
Note that this refer to monitoring and patrolling by local DENR rangers under supervision of Tamaraw rangers and involving local Alangan tribe as volunteer or contractors.																								
9.1	Identify <i>Alangan</i> chieftains, elders and community members whose area of authority or attributed land parcels encompass Tamaraw range (as stated in the Tribe Ancestral Domain and Land-Use Plan)	Complete list of <i>Alangans</i> and settlements directly affected by Tamaraw presence		X	X										120	120								TCP, <i>Alangan</i> tribe, NCIP
9.2	Identify committed <i>Alangan</i> members to create a monitoring/warden team (initially volunteers, eventually contracted) representing the diversity of the Tribe (<i>Katutubong Bantay Tamaraw</i>)	Ready to go team(s) of at least 4 members from both Provinces		X	X	X								300	300	300								TCP, Tribal Leaders, Bgry. LGUs, Municipal LGUs
9.3	Secure formal consent of above members (9.1) to allow DENR rangers and <i>Alangan</i> members to patrol and monitor the Ancestral Domain	<i>Kasunduan</i> (agreement between DENR and Tribal leaders)		X	X										100	100								TCP, Tribal Leaders

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
9.4	Define and establish mandate, monitoring agenda, coordination mechanism and capacities of the mixed monitoring teams (i.e. patrol routes, regularity, field equipment, field data collection, reporting and communication tools)	Duty and monitoring agenda validated by the Tribe and coordinating organization(s)		X	X									100	100								TCP, Tribe, IP monitoring team
9.5	Lobby for allocation of funds from concerned LGUs and/or DENR offices for <i>Katutubong Bantay Tamaraw</i> (P400K by 2025, P600K by 2030)	Amounts allocated		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		400	400	400	400	600	600	600	600	600	NGOs, IPMR, IP Leaders
9.6	Deploy the SMART platform as a monitoring and law enforcement tool along with SOP for patrolling strategy	Effective SMART system in use with supervising coordinating entity		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X											TCP, <i>Alangan</i> Tribal Leaders
		At least 4 volunteers (2 from Occidental Mindoro & 2 from Oriental Mindoro) by 2025		X	X	X	X																TCP, <i>Alangan</i> Tribal Leaders
		At least 12 volunteers (6 from Occidental Mindoro & 6 from Oriental Mindoro) by 2030						X	X	X	X	X											TCP, <i>Alangan</i> Tribal Leaders

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
9.7	Build capacity (skills & equipment) – 4 sets of training by 2023, 6 sets of training 2025, for volunteers to be deputised as Wildlife Enforcement Officers (WEO) by the DENR	Training courses conducted (e.g. WEO, Jungle survival, SAR, Wildlife Identification); no. of rangers trained; basic equipment provided	X	X	X	X	X						1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050	1,050							TCP, NGOs
9.8	Capital outlay for construction of rangers’ station					X										2,000								DENR, TCP
GOAL 10. Conduct a comprehensive socio-environmental assessment of the region to assist integration of conservation objectives with the ongoing socio-economic dynamic of the <i>Alangan</i> Tribe																								
Note that the area to be assessed includes Lamlamayan, Gimparay, & Batu Oy-Liyao																								
10.1	Conduct additional verification surveys in adjacent areas in Municipalities of Naujan, Baco, San Teodoro, & Sablayan	Number of surveys conducted with reports and map(s) submitted	X	X									150	150										TCP, MBCFI, DAF, LGU, <i>Katutubong Bantay Tamaraw Team</i>
10.2	Conduct ethnobiological & socio-economic assessment of residing communities	Percentages of sites covered		X	X	X									200	200	200							TCP, MBCFI, DAF, LGU, <i>Katutubong Bantay Tamaraw Team</i> , NCIP and expert in social sciences
10.3	Conduct a threat assessment and risk assessment on Tamaraw and natural resources/ ecosystems of the region	Technical report	X	X	X	X							150	150	150	150								As above

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
10.4	Conduct habitat assessment and Tamaraw ecology studies	Technical reports		X	X	X							150	150	150									TCP, IPs, DENR, NGOs and partners, academe
10.5	Evaluate potential maximum future Tamaraw distribution according to biophysical parameters, estimated viable population sizes and area carrying capacity estimates	Prospective map of Tamaraw range in 2050 and population models			X									200										TCP, Partner NGOs, IUCN SSC
Goal 11: Create an “Alangan – Tamaraw Protected Landscape” under an ICCA, LCA or OECM category, to underpin area protection measures																								
This would involve assessing feasibility then establishing a bio-cultural landscape conservation area under adequate regulation, to preserve the upland forest habitat, upper watershed and the Tamaraw living there.																								
11.1	Consult with stakeholders	Meetings held; resolution/endorsement from IP group; MOA/ agreement; number of participants & institutions		X	X	X	X							150	150	150	150							TCP, IPs, NCIP, LGU
11.2	Lobby for Municipal LGU policy support (Mun. Sablayan, Naujan, Baco, San Teodoro, Santa Cruz)	Sanguniang Bayan (SB) resolution drafted and approved		X	X	X	X							50	50	50	50							IP representative, TCP, MENRO, NCIP, IPAO
11.3	Develop a comprehensive management plan through a participatory process ensuring harmonization with ADSDPP	Management plan drafted, endorsed, and approved					X	X									200	200						IPs, NCIP, TCP, LGUs, NGOs

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
11.4	Develop proposals and generate funds	Number of proposals drafted, submitted, and approved; amount of funds released						X	X	X	X	X						100	100	100	100	100	NGOs, TWG (IPs and major stakeholder)
11.5	Support designing the use, regulations and protective measure for the <i>Alangan</i> – Tamaraw Protected Landscape	Appendix of ADSDPP or management plan						X															DENR, Tribe, NCIP
GOAL 12. Avoid or mitigate negative impacts of road development (interprovincial cross road) <i>[Note: reconciling the road project's economic objectives with social and environmental safeguards will require either re-routing the itinerary or imposing restrictive regulation]</i>																							
12.1	Initiate discussions between stakeholders		X										100										TCP, DPWH, IPs, NCIP, NEDA, prov. & mun. LGU, DENR
	12.1.1 Discussion among IP communities	Agreement & resolution, documentation of meetings	X																				
	12.1.2 Request the District representative and/or governor to call for meeting with major stakeholders (IP, DPWH regional, Prov. Eng'g Office)	Agreement & resolution, documentation of meetings	X																				TCP, IP, NCIP, DPWH, Regional & Provincial Engineering Office

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators		
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030			
12.2	Feasibility study and biological-social impact assessment (field surveys and analysis)	Biological and Social Impact report (with initial recommendations/mitigation measures)		X	X										150	150									TCP, NCIP, NGOs, Academe
12.3	Define and agree on alternative routes and/or mitigating structures with regulation of developments and settlements	Endorsement by politicians and project implementing bodies		X	X																				DENR, DPWH, Tribe, Mindoro Prov. Govt.

ARUYAN-MALATI TAMARAW RESERVATION

Scope: Aruyan-Malati area in the Municipality of Sablayan

INTRODUCTION

Aruyan-Malati region is a historical area for Tamaraw, hosting a substantial population until recently. However, latest assessments estimate the size of this population at 3-15 individuals. This makes it extremely vulnerable, with little chance of persistence without urgent action. Recovery of Tamaraw in Aruyan-Malati will require an increase in the number of trained, well-equipped rangers to prevent poaching, as well as a drastic change in the land-use system of the residing *Tau-buid* communities to allow sufficient and suitable undisturbed places to persist. Besides this, some habitat restoration work might be needed at some point. Due to the small size of this population and the limited carrying capacity of the area, these measures alone will not guarantee recovery and persistence. Translocation of Tamaraw into the site from other populations will be needed, both to initiate growth and in the longer-term to reduce the accumulation of inbreeding, which could otherwise depress population health.

Declaring the Aruyan-Malati area as critical habitat for Tamaraw is essential to the long-term future of the species in this area. However, it should be noted that the side of Aruyan is covered by Presidential Proclamation No. 72, series of 1954, declaring the area as “Sablayan Prison and Penal Farm”. Its overall administration lies in the Department of Justice – Bureau of Corrections (previously the Bureau of Prison) and not in DENR.

Relevant plans: ADSDPP of *Tau-buid*, Forest Land Use Plan (2016 draft) and Comprehensive Land Use Plan of LGU Sablayan, plans being implemented by the Department of Justice (DOJ) – Bureau of Corrections in that area.

GOALS FOR ARUYAN-MALATI TAMARAW RESERVATION

Goal 13. Establish effective management and protection of the Aruyan-Malati landscape, to secure Tamaraw habitats.

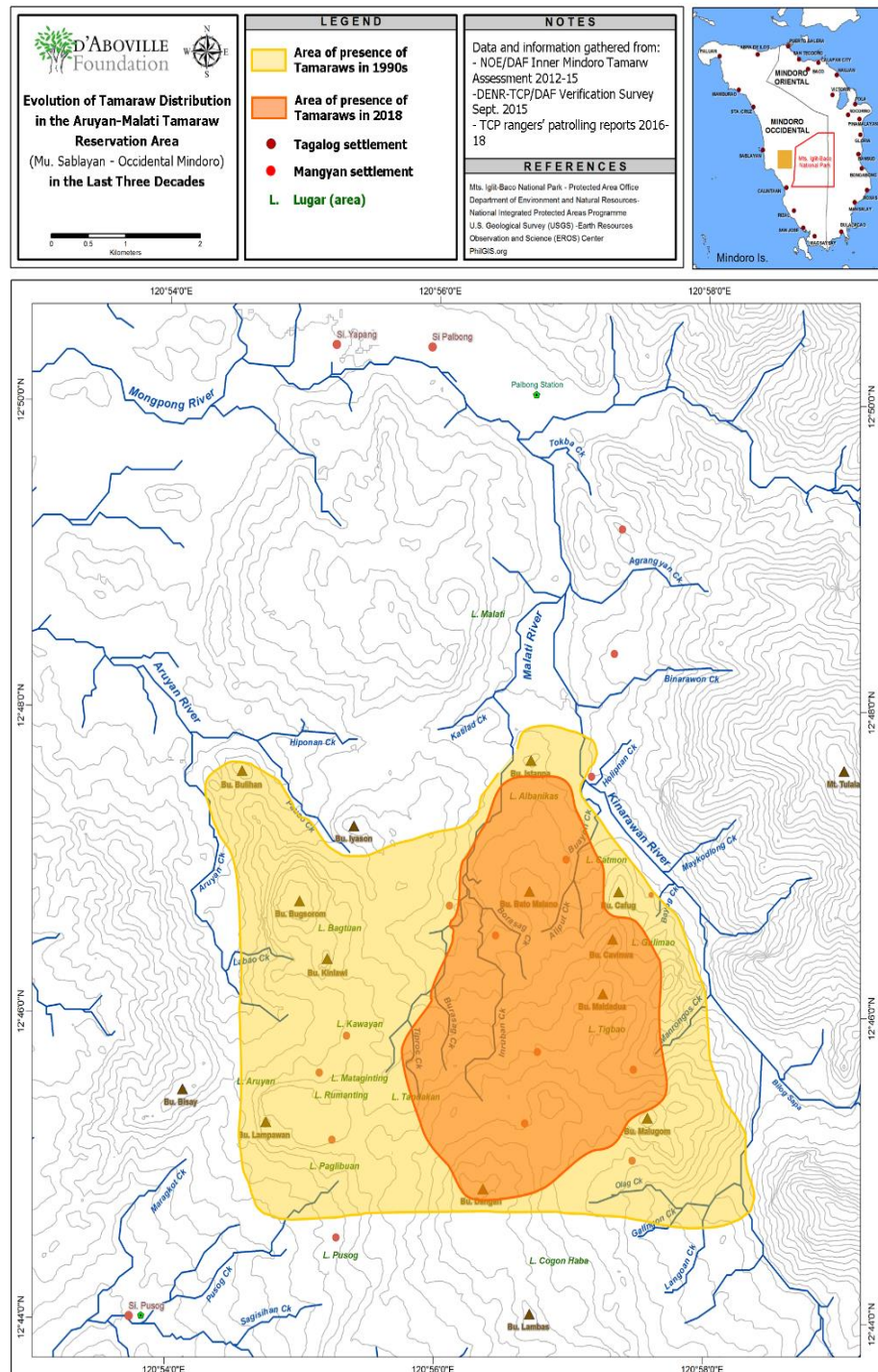
Goal 14. Reinforce traditional farming education with integrated farming, to regulate kaingin areas.

Goal 15. Increase the numbers of rangers and volunteers with proper skills and equipment to address anthropogenic threats such as poaching and logging.

Goal 16. Enhance mechanisms for effective law enforcement, following Standard Operating Procedures on natural resources abuse and wildlife crime prevention, with consideration for traditional and cultural practices of the IPs.

Goal 17. Supplement population growth of Tamaraw to viable numbers, with full agreement from stakeholders.

Goal 18. Restore and expand natural forest within the Tamaraw habitat to reduce the presence of invasive species and promote a network of undisturbed areas for wildlife.



GOALS, SUB-GOALS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: ARUYAN MALATI TAMARAW RESERVATION

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
GOAL 13: Establish effective management and protection of the Aruyan-Malati landscape, to secure Tamaraw habitats																								
13.1	Finalize declaration of the Aruyan-Malati as “Critical Habitat” for Tamaraw	Submission of source documents such as draft DENR Administrative Order or Local Ordinance/ Resolution	X	X	X	X																		TCP, LGU Sablayan
13.2	Reach management agreement within the Critical Habitat of Tamaraw	Assessments of Tenurial Instruments (within CADT, and Tamaraw Habitats); No. of Tenurial Maps; No. of Certification Preconditions (FPIC applied)		X	X										50	50								TCP, LGU-Sablayan, SPPF, NCIP
13.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Formulate Critical Habitat Management Plan by 2024Implement plan from 2025 onwardsIntegrate or continue initiatives from other relevant goals	Critical Habitat Management Plan prepared (2024); Approval of Management Plan by Regional Executive Director (RED) pursuant to DENR Administrative Order No. 2016-07			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				250	250	100	100	100	100	100	100	TCP & LGU Sablayan, Management Body, CSOs, Academe, <i>Tau-Buid</i> Tribe (<i>Tagmaran</i> - Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe), NCIP

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators			
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030				
GOAL 14. Reinforce traditional farming education with integrated farming, to regulate kaingin areas																										
14.1	Conduct study to define socio-agro-ecologic context of the area (biophysical and socio-economic conditions)	Technical report disseminated to concerned stakeholders and representatives			X	X										200	200								DENR, Tribe, NCIP, academe, experts e.g. Institute of Agroforestry in the Philippines	
14.2	Initiate improvement of agro-ecosystem through farming techniques and agroforestry training in frame of future ADSDPP	Activity plan endorsed by the tribe				X	X										200	200								DENR, Tribe, NCIP, academe, experts e.g. Institute of Agroforestry in the Philippines
14.3	Implement land-use plan for agro-forest system at the scale of the Critical Habitat	Endorsed global land-use plan of the concerned communities in accordance with the Management Plan of AMTR					X	X	X	X	X	X														All stakeholders & partners
14.4	Training on agro-forestry or integrated farming methods	No. of agro-forestry farming or integrated farming system adopters No. of agroforestry farms established					X	X	X	X	X	X						500	500	500	500	500	500	500		NCIP, TCP, Department of Agriculture, <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe (<i>Tagmaran</i> - Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe), LGU Sablayan

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
GOAL 15. Increase the numbers of rangers and volunteers with proper skills and equipment, to address anthropogenic threats such as poaching and logging																							
15.1	Identify the appropriate ranger-to-area ratio in Aruyan-Malati	No. of rangers needed based on the available budget and total area is known	X																				TCP, LGU Sablayan, Tau-buid Tribe (Tagmaran - Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe)
15.2	Establish SMART system with SOP training for Wildlife Crime Prevention and Law Enforcement	Effective use of cyber trackers and SMART platform generates reports to a coordinating entity		X	X										200	200							TCP, DAF, MENRO
15.3	Hire rangers	Required rangers are hired with annual renewal (10% increase per year with endorsement from IPs)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	840	924	1,020	1,122	1,234	3,272	3,272	3,272	3,272	3,272	TCP LGU Sablayan, <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe (Tagmaran - Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe)
15.4	Capacitate newly hired rangers	No. of trained rangers; No. of technical and paralegal trainings conducted	X	X	X	X	X	X					575	575	575	575	575	575					TCP, LGU Sablayan, <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe (Tagmaran - Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe), Armed Forces of PH, BLGU

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
15.5	Deputize trained rangers	DENR-WEO Certificate (Annual Renewal; No. of Deputized Rangers)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	TCP [DENR, <i>Tau-Buid</i> Tribe (Tagmaran Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe)]
15.6	Increase volunteers (<i>Bantay Gubat</i>)	Capacitation of volunteers; No. of technical and paralegal trainings conducted; deputation of volunteers (<i>Bantay Gubat</i>) by DENR; endorsement from IPs	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	LGU Sablayan, TCP, <i>Tau-Buid</i> Tribe (Tagmaran Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe)
15.7	Creation of Barangay Tamaraw Conservation Council (BTCC)	BTCC created within/nearest Brgy. LGUs of known Tamaraw habitat			X	X									216	216							Brgy. LGUs, TCP, Municipal LGUS
GOAL 16: Enhance mechanisms for effective law enforcement, following Standard Operating Procedures on natural resources abuse and wildlife crime prevention, with consideration for traditional and cultural practices of the IPs																							
16.1	Issuance and implementation of Local Ordinances on prohibiting the hunting of Tamaraw and other destructive practices (e.g. timber poaching, electrofishing, mining, and quarrying), targeting non-IPs:	<u>Local Ordinances</u> No. of violators arrested; No. of cases filed in court; No. of cases resolved <u>Enforcement Plan</u>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		250	250	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	BLGU and IPMR, LGU Sablayan, <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe (Tagmaran Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe)

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development plan: 2022-2023 Local Issuance: 2024 Implementation: from 2025 	No. of IPs involved in the enforcement activity; No. of monitoring teams created (barangay level)																					
16.2	Reinforcement of “Awareness Raising on Environmental Conservation and Tamaraw Protection”	IEC Materials; Communication Plan; informal lectures (<i>Dalaw Turo</i> even outside Tamaraw Month); film showing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	250	TCP, <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe (<i>Tagmaran</i> Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe)
16.3	Provision of Capital Outlay for the construction and/or repair of Ranger’s stations				X										1,500								DENR
GOAL 17: Supplement population growth of Tamaraw to achieve viable numbers, with full agreement from stakeholders																							
17.1	Conduct feasibility study for the translocation of Tamaraw	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Habitat range, viable area Suitable zones for acclimatization and release % survival rate, carrying capacity of the area, adult sex ratio, fecundity rate 	X	X	X								100	100	100								TCP & LGU Sablayan , <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe <i>Tagmaran</i> Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-buid</i> Tribe), CSOs, external experts e.g. IUCN SSC AWCS

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
17.2	Develop and implement a translocation plan.	TBD				X	X	X	X	X	X	X					250	250	250	250	250	250	250	TCP & LGU Sablayan, <i>Tau-Buid</i> Tribe (<i>Tagmaran</i> Administrative Unit of <i>Tau-Buid</i> Tribe), CSOs, IUCN SSC AWCS, CCTU, GWC
GOAL 18: Restore and expand natural forest within the Tamaraw habitat to reduce the presence of invasive species and promote a network of undisturbed areas for wildlife																								
18.1	Conduct survey, mapping and planning (includes zoning of areas)	Survey, mapping and planning report (reforestation areas identified, GIS maps, species inventory)		X	X										150	150								TCP, CENRO/ PENRO, NGO(s), Sablayan LGU
18.2	Conduct ethno-ecological study of the forest ecosystem and rationale for use of forest resources of the Aruyan-Malati region	Technical report endorsed by the Tribe and DENR		X	X	X									175	175	175							TCP, tribe, NGOs, academe, experts
18.3	Design network of areas of ecological importance for low disturbance zones	Agreed map delineated on site with agreed regulations		X	X										150	150								TCP, tribe, NGOs, MENRO

MOUNT CALAVITE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

INTRODUCTION

The Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary (MCWS) is one of the three (3) legislated protected areas in Mindoro Island. It has a total land area of 18,172.69 hectares per RA 11038 (ENIPAS Act of 2018), and lies in the Municipality of Paluan, which is located in the northern-west tip of the Province of Occidental Mindoro. Tamaraw used to occur in MCWS and their continued presence was re-confirmed during the 2019 verification survey, after a decade of non-detection. However, current population estimates range from only 4-6 individuals.

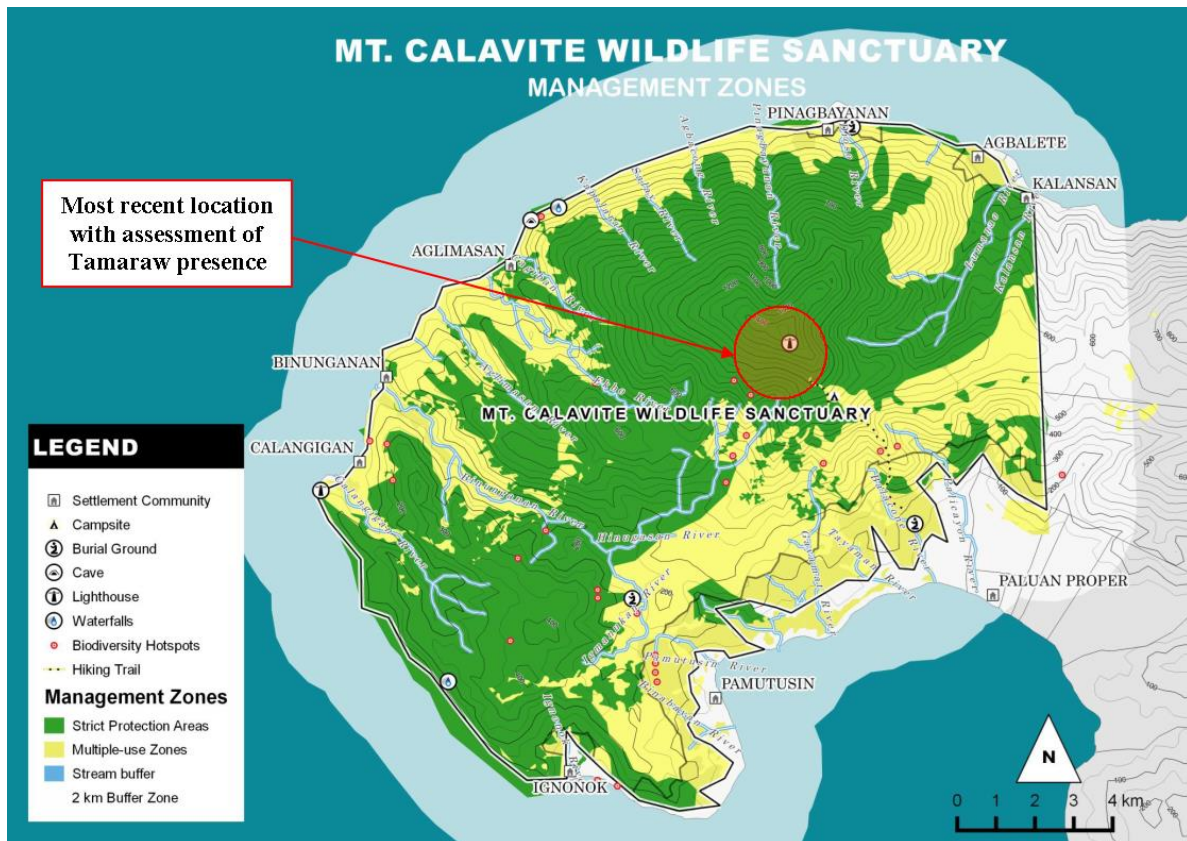


Figure 25. Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary showing the area where Tamaraw presence was confirmed in 2019.

The “Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary Protected Area Management Plan 2017 – 2021” provides an important opportunity for Tamaraw conservation. The planned zoning system includes a strict protection zone (SPZ) (9,552ha) composed of upland habitats above 1000m, forest, DENR-National Greening Program (NGP) restoration zone, and steep and rough terrain. A significant portion of this could be considered potential Tamaraw range. Though the current plan does not make specific recommendations for the recovery and conservation of Tamaraw, it includes provisions for the protection of biodiversity in general, including protection, patrolling, habitat restoration, land-use regulation and community engagement. This section does not aim to duplicate this plan, but instead to support it by recommending Tamaraw-specific measures for integration into the broader program of work operating at MCWS.

Addressing habitat management and protection issues alone will not guarantee recovery and persistence of Tamaraw at MCWS. Translocation of Tamaraw into the site from other populations will be needed, both to initiate growth and in the longer-term to reduce the accumulation of inbreeding, which could otherwise depress population health.

Other relevant plans: ADSDPP and the “Mount Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary Protected Area Management Plan 2017 – 2021” (due for updating in 2021)

GOALS FOR MOUNT CALAVITE WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

Goal 19. Verify the presence and location(s) of Tamaraw in MCWS.

Goal 20. Assess suitable habitat for Tamaraw, delineate potential range, and include within MCWS Strict Protection Zone.

Goal 21. Strengthen protective measures within the range delineated for Tamaraw.

Goal 22. Re-establish a healthy population of Tamaraw at MCWS.

GOALS, SUB-GOALS AND RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: ARUYAN-MALATI TAMARAW RESERVATION

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
GOAL 19. Verify the presence and location(s) of Tamaraw in MCWS																							
19.1	Survey to verify presence and locations of Tamaraw in MCWS	Verification report with map(s) confirming presence and locations of Tamaraw in MCWS	X	X									150	150									TCP, NGOs, academe and relevant site stakeholders
GOAL 20. Assess suitable habitat for Tamaraw, delineate potential range and include within MCWS Strict Protection Zone																							
20.1	Conduct perimeter survey/ground truthing/ delineation of upland farming areas already occupied by IPs within the SPZ, based on the results of the socio-economic assessment and monitoring system (SEAMS) results	Reports with map(s) shared	X	X									100	100									TCP, PAMO, with partners
20.2	Assess the current suitability for Tamaraw, of the habitats, conditions and activities within MCWS and determine what (if anything) needs to be done to restore these areas for Tamaraw	Report on current suitability of MCWS for Tamaraw, and on restoration requirements for these areas (if any)		X	X									250	250								TCP, PAMO, with partners

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
20.3	Assess feasibility of establishing a viable population of Tamaraw in MCWS	Report on feasibility of establishing a viable population of Tamaraw in MCWS		X	X										100	100								TCP, PAMO, with partners
20.4	Update zoning within the PA to include areas suitable as Tamaraw habitat within the SPZ and implement associated activities such as consultations with affected IPs	PA zoning is updated to support Tamaraw conservation	X	X											100	100								TCP, PAMO, with partners
20.5	Establish a protection system for the updated SPZ that includes suitable habitats for Tamaraw	Tamaraw are well-protected within the SPZ		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X												TCP, PAMO, with partners
20.6	Consult with local communities to develop a socio-cultural and socio-economic perspective on how local communities will accept and benefit from, Tamaraw reintroduction	Benefits of Tamaraw reintroduction are well-understood by and evident in local communities		X	X	X									100	100	100							TCP, PAMO, with partners

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	
20.7	Conduct a community awareness program to address perceptions or concerns that livelihood activities within the park will be prohibited or negatively affected once a Tamaraw conservation program is implemented	Within local communities, perceptions of the Tamaraw conservation program are mainly positive	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	100	100	100	100	100	100	60	60	60	60	TCP, PAMO, with partners
GOAL 21. Strengthen protective measures within the range delineated for Tamaraw																							
Sub-goal 21A. Prepare the site for Tamaraw																							
21A.1	Increase the number of well-trained and well-equipped rangers (see actions related to this in MIBNP section)	More rangers, better trained and equipped		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	420	PAMO, TCP with partners
21A.2	Creation of Barangay Tamaraw Conservation Council (BTCC)	BTCC created within/nearest Brgy. LGUs of known Tamaraw habitat			X	X									216	216							
Sub-goal 21B. Manage the area to support Tamaraw once present																							
21B.1	SMART patrolling and more patrolling (see MIBNP working group report)	Patrolling and enforcement are effective enough to support a population of Tamaraw		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	PAMO, TCP with partners

No.	Action	Indicator of achievement	Y1 2021	Y2 2022	Y3 2023	Y4 2024	Y5 2025	Y6 2026	Y7 2027	Y8 2028	Y9 2029	Y10 2030	Budgetary Requirement (P'000)										Leads, Collaborators	
													2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030		
GOAL 22. Re-establish a healthy population of Tamaraw at MCWS																								
22.1	Align the TCMAP and the MCWS PAMP	TCMAP priorities are included in the post-2021 MCWS PAMP	X	X	X																			PAMO, TCP with partners
22.2	Update and finalize the PA management plan using TCMAP as a reference, in line with the ENIPAS Act and its implementing rules and regulations	PA management plan is finalized with TCMAP as reference		X	X										100	100								PAMO, TCP with partners
22.3	Work with TC3 to include MCWS in the Tamaraw meta-population translocation program	MCWS is included in the meta-population translocation program; Timelines and sources of Tamaraw are agreed				X	X									250	250							PAMO, TCP with partners
22.4	Design and implement a translocation plan for MCWS	Approach is agreed and resources are secured; Tamaraw are released in MCWS						X										4,000						PAMO, TCP, national & international partners

MONITORING AND UPDATING OF THE PLAN

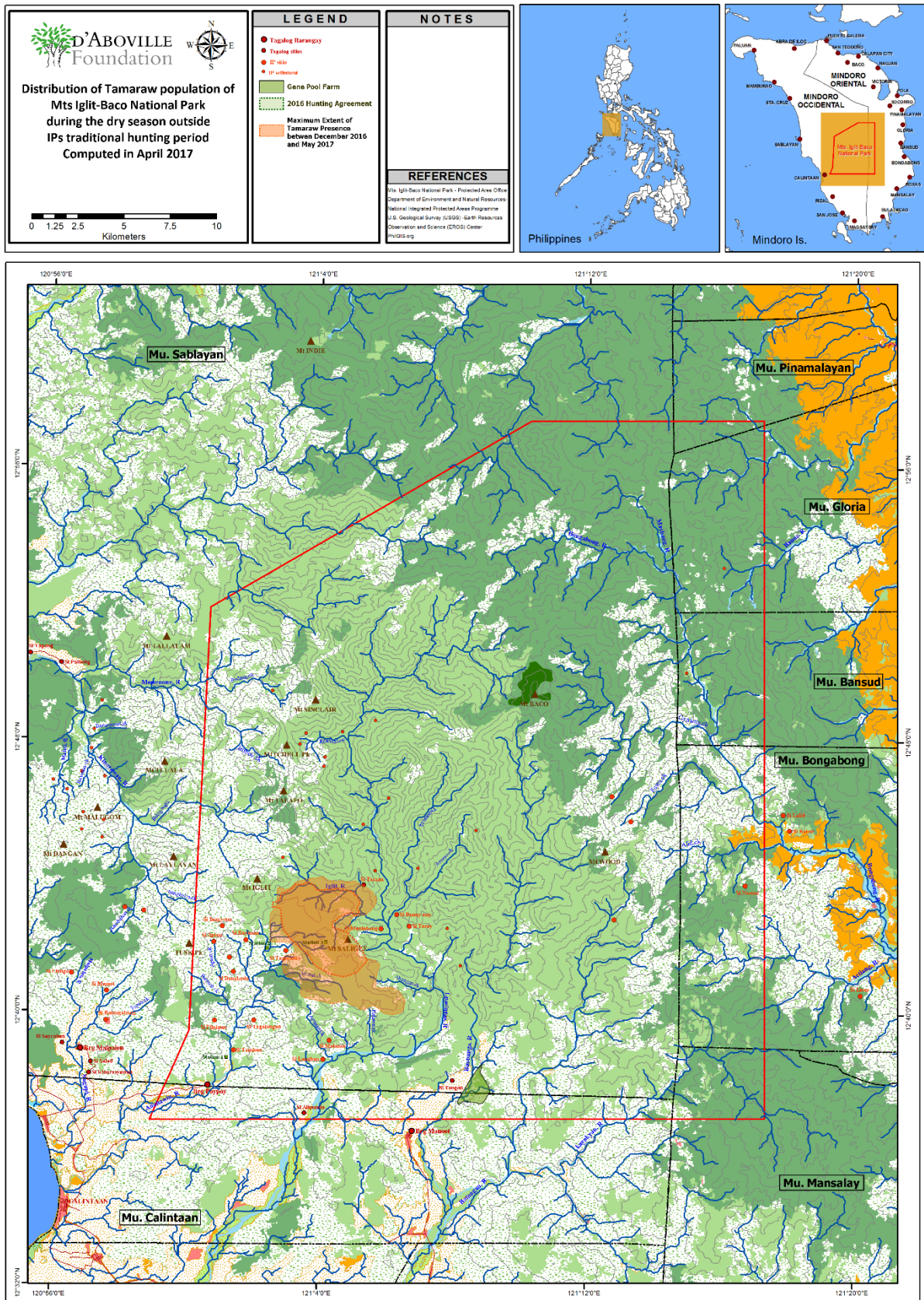
The actions identified should be monitored and evaluated for its effectiveness, as well as regularly updated to address emerging issues and challenges. The BMB through the DENR MIMAROPA Region and TC3 shall monitor and evaluate the implementation of the activities in the TCMAP. The TCMAP shall be reviewed and updated every five (5) years or as necessary.

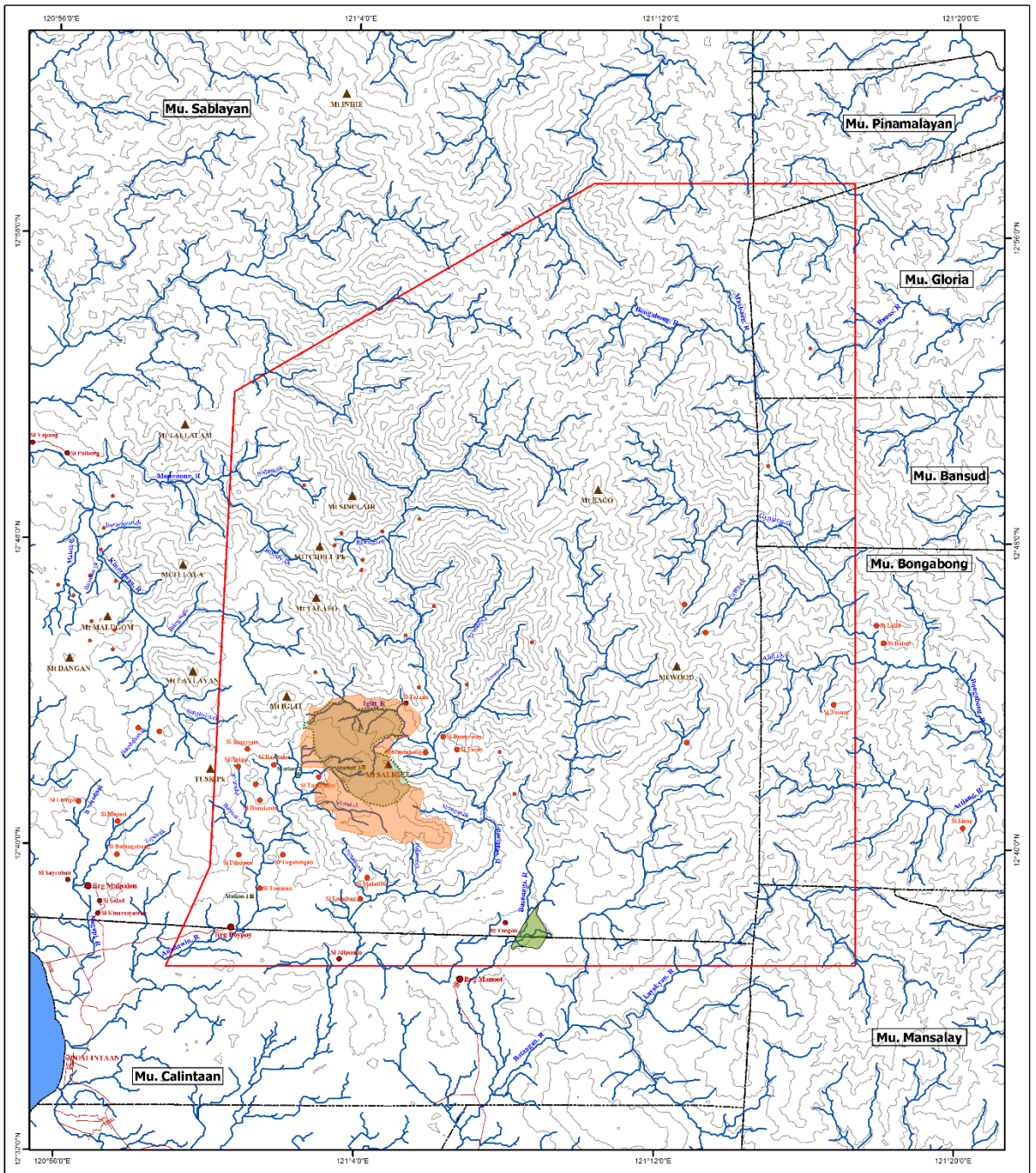
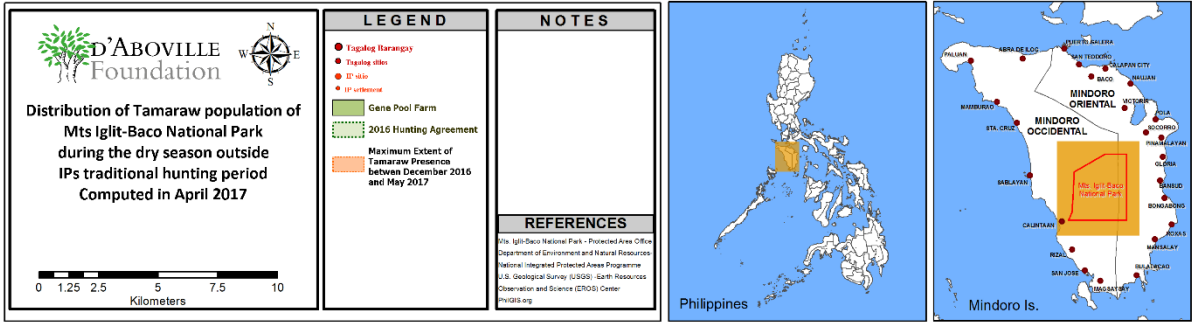
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APPENDIX I. MAPS





PARTNERS

