



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Region IV- MIMAROPA
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

November 21, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
MIMAROPA Region

THRU : The Assistant Regional Director
Management Services

FROM : The OIC, PENRO
Calapan City

SUBJECT : SUBMISSION OF INDIVIDUAL LEARNING REPORT ON
THE ATTENDANCE TO THE SFFI NATIONAL
CONFERENCE HELD AT SUBIC BAY, OLONGAPO
CITY, ZAMBALES

Respectfully forwarded is the Individual Learning Report submitted by Forester Florencio C. Isabedra on his attendance to the SFFI National Conference held at Subic Bay, Olongapo City, Zambales on November 8-12, 2023.

For reference.

 11/22/23
ALAN L. VALLE



Tracking nos. 2311000536
fn:msd/admin/hr/property/gem



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Region IV- MIMAROPA
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

November 16, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The OIC PENRO
Suqui, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro

FROM : FLORENCIO C. ISABEDRA, JR., RPF, DPA

SUBJECT : **INDIVIDUAL LEARNING REPORT AT THE SFFI NATIONAL
CONFERENCE HELD AT SUBIC BAY, OLONGAPO CITY,
ZAMBALES FROM NOVEMBER 8 TO NOVEMBER 12, 2023**

Respectfully forwarding is a copy of the individual learning report of the national conference sponsored by the Society of Filipino Foresters, Inc. (SFFI) held at Subic Bay, Olongapo City, Zambales, from November 8, 2023, to November 12, 2023. This is an annual event conducted by the SFFI for the Foresters continuing professional development as embodied in Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the "Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Act of 2016", which requires CPD as the mandatory requirement for the renewal of the Professional Identification Card.

For information and record.


FLORENCIO C. ISABEDRA, JR. RPF, DPA

INDIVIDUAL LEARNING REPORT

Part 1 (To be prepared by the participant)

Name of Participant:	FLORENCIO C. ISABEDRA JR.
Office/Service:	RPS-TSD, DENR-PENRO ORIENTAL MINDORO
Training Title:	SFFI@75: Advocating Wood and Non-Timber Forest Products Sufficiency for Climate Resiliency
Learning Providers:	Society of Filipino Foresters, Inc.
Inclusive Dates:	November 8-12, 2023
Venue:	Subic Bay, Olongapo City, Zambales

I. EVALUATION OF THE COURSE:

- **Technical Content:**

The first topic discussed in this afternoon session on November 9, 2023 is "How **can we attain sufficiency in wood and non-timber forest products**". Through the years, the forestry sector in the Philippines has continuously declined in physical, economic, and environmental terms. The decline is attributed to challenges in the governance of the forestry sector, some of which are log bans and significant delays in the granting and approval of permits. Significant policy reforms have been initiated at present, but interpretation and implementation vary widely across DENR field offices. The discussion for this topic is worthy of listening since this is very relevant to the present situation of our natural resources condition particularly the forest.

The topic for the November 10, 2023, morning session discussion is '**Forging Partnership with International Forestry Professionals**'. Similarly, countries such as Malaysia and Lao PDR are also facing the same challenges for the role of foresters in managing forestland. Consequently, the above lectures on this topic of broadening the spheres of network of the Philippine Forestry professionals are necessary given the situation of climate change that also affects other parts of the globe. The exchange of expertise between our country's forestry professionals and those of our neighboring country can hopefully work towards addressing the mitigation of climate change.

The topic for this afternoon, November 10, 2023, is "**Rekindling the pride in the forestry profession: The need for professionals to strengthen their ranks**". The year that the forester is doing the work as a technical person, such as inventory of trees, re-classification of forest lands, survey of logging roads, and harvesting of trees, is simply because the logging industry no longer exists. The dwindling forest in our country reshapes the future of many foresters, as most of them are diverted as community development workers. Many of our fellow foresters are now involved in the planning of nursery establishments, plantation development, and the protection of forest areas. Graduates of environmental science, economics, social science, and related sciences now also perform some of the work of the foresters. The fact that at present there are fewer opportunities for the services of registered foresters in the private and government sectors means that we need to recalibrate them to fit the demands of the time. However, few acknowledge that foresters are also trained as social scientists and environmentalists, apart from being field foresters. Even then, the foresters still need to refocus and upgrade themselves to meet the demand of being the vanguards of our forest. The following are the recommendations suggested for the forestry profession: a resolution to request government institutions institutionalize and strengthen the practice of the forestry profession; allowing only RPF with valid licenses and members of the SFFI to perform forestry-related activities and sign corresponding documents; continuing to review policies and recommend amendments or developing new ones to strengthen the practice of the forestry profession. In addition to career enhancement, foresters are also encouraged to pursue higher education, such as graduate studies. The discussion on this topic is important since the survival of the forestry profession is also necessary. Though some of

the roles and functions of the foresters are being performed by graduates of other disciplines due to the widening horizons faced by the continued forest depletion, there are still aspects of forest management that only the foresters can perform. Therefore, strengthening our ranks as foresters is necessary, for there are few who chose this noble profession that is less embraced by others.

• **Impression/Comments:**

The whole conference, lectures, and open forum are very timely since we are now bothered by the many challenges faced by forestry professionals. Aside from this, the present status of our forest, including the supply of wood and the contributions of the forestry sector, is well elaborated. Though time is limited, the lectures are well compressed, so the substance is still there for the participants to understand the key points of the topics.

II. RELEVANCE OF THE LEARNING EVENT TO PARTICIPANT'S WORK/FUNCTION:

As a practicing professional forester, aside from the need to earn the required units of continuing professional development required under Republic Act No. 10912, otherwise known as the "Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Act of 2016, to renew our license, the substance and content of the topics discussed are important for us to be aware of the events and developments affecting our practices. The lecturers who came are all experts in the topic they discussed and shared with us. The learnings there are a good start to further conducting more readings and analyses that have relevance for me as a practicing field forester at DENR PENRO Oriental Mindoro.

III. RECOMMENDATIONS:

This learning event is valuable and needed in this time of adversity where the knowledge of environmental and natural resources courses, though already taken in undergraduate and postgraduate courses, is still necessary to upgrade our knowledge and further sharpen our capacity to increase our effectiveness as foresters in the field. This continuing professional development for foresters is recommended for every one of us in this noble profession to sharpen further our knowledge and to know more about development and advancement in natural resources management. Keeping up with the pace of rapid changes and development brought by modernization could further help us as vanguards of our environment and our forest, both for the present and future generations' benefits and welfare.

Proposed Plan/Activity/Output	Time Frame
Review of tenurial instrument such as the following: IFMA, SIFMA, CBFMA, PACBRMA, FLAg, FLAgT	November 20, 2023 to November 30, 2023
Review DAO 2020-18 and DAO 2004-04 to make it responsive to Sustainable Forest Development and the Practice of Forestry Profession	December 1-7, 2023

Part 2 (To be prepared by the SUPERVISOR)

How will you support the post Learning Action/Proposal?

The proposal of the attendee, Florencio C. Isabedra, Jr., RPF, DPA, is necessary since he is in charge of the utilization and permitting unit under the Regulation and Permitting Section of the Technical Services Division of PENRO Oriental Mindoro.

Have you discussed any concerns/resources needed by your subordinate so that he/she can effectively transfer the skills and knowledge gained from the training?

Yes. This is very important since, as the technical staff that handles the permitting for tenorial, tree cutting, water resources, and gratuitous special use permits, he reviews the applications for these documents before finally forwarding them to the regional office.

Would you be willing to send him/her again to other training/seminar/conference?

Yes X No Others

If yes, please specify courses.

It is suggested or recommended that the attendee, **Florencio C. Isabedra, Jr., RPF, DPA**, regularly sends him to the annual SFFI national conference to upgrade his skills and knowledge. Further, it is also recommended that he be sent to the ENR Academy, where the length of time for the lectures and discussions on forestry topics is enough to cover the whole topic.

Submitted by:


FLORENCIO C. ISABEDRA, JR. RPF, DPA
Attendee

Noted/Confirmed by:


ALMA E. GIBE
Supervisor

November 16, 2023
Date