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Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
MIMAROPA Region

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August 16, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA
1515 L&S Bldg., Roxas Blvd.
Ermita, Manila

FROM : The Provincial Environment and
Natural Resources Officer

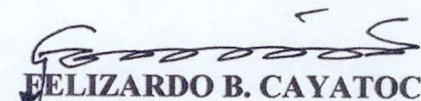
SUBJECT : **PCCP PATROL REPORTS IN FOUR PROJECT SITES FOR THE
MONTH OF JUNE CY 2022**

Forwarded are copies of Katala Foundation Incorporated (KFI) patrol and monitoring reports on forest and biodiversity in four (4) Project Sites for the month of June CY 2022 to wit:

1. Dumarán Island Critical Habitat, Dumarán, Palawan;
2. Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm (IPPF), Puerto Princesa City;
3. Pandanan and Bugsuk, Balabac Palawan; and
4. Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary (RIWS), Narra, Palawan.

For information and record.




FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC

DENR-PALAWAN
PENRO-RECORDS
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Date: 18 AUG 2022 CN 2022-2087



KFI PATROL AND MONITORING REPORT ON FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY PANDANAN AND BUGSUK ISLANDS, BALABAC

June 2022

Prepared by:

Rene A. S. Antonio, Peter Widmann and Indira D. L. Widmann

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSERVATION AREA, CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES, CONSERVATION TARGETS AND METHODS

Pandan and Bugsuk Islands belong to the north-easternmost municipality of Balabac in Palawan (Fig. 1). Coastal forests are dense and stock on flat limestone originating from elevated coral reefs. Large trees in the coastal forest are mostly deciduous and widely spaced due to water stress during the dry season. The understorey is very dense with abundant vines. Emergent trees *Pometia pinnata*, *Dracontomelon dao*, *Koordersiodendron pinnatum*, *Intsia bijuga*, and *Ficus* spp. A narrow rim of beach forest with *Erythrina*, *Calophyllum* and *Barringtonia* is present. The dense coastal forest cover is as well protected because the large portion of the island is privately-owned and entries are monitored by security company guards. Extensive mangroves are thriving which mostly dominated by genus *Sonneratia* and *Rhizophora*. Mangrove forest play important role not only to its wildlife inhabitant but act as one of the main food sources for the critically endangered Philippine Cockatoo. Both islands have old growth *Sonneratia* that can sustain food to significant numbers of wild cockatoo population during its fruiting season.

Currently, 101 bird species have been recorded in Pandanan, Bugsuk and adjacent Malinsuno Island. Among these are six globally threatened and six near-threatened species (IUCN 2019). Of outstanding conservation concern are particularly the larger tree cavity nesters, like Palawan Hornbill, all three parrot species of Palawan, Philippine Cockatoo *Cacatua haematuropygia*, Blue-naped Parrot *Tanygnathus lucionensis* and Blue-headed Racquet-tail *Prioniturus platenae*, and other conservation relevant species like Grey Imperial-pigeons *Ducula pickeringii* and Mantanani Scops-owl *Otus mantananensis* (Widmann et al. 2008). The first and only record for the Philippines of a Fairy Pitta *Pitta nympha* comes from Malinsuno as a result of the conservation project. On the other hand Bugsuk Island also serves as one of the important habitat for the endemic Balabac Mousedeer *Tragulus nigricans*,

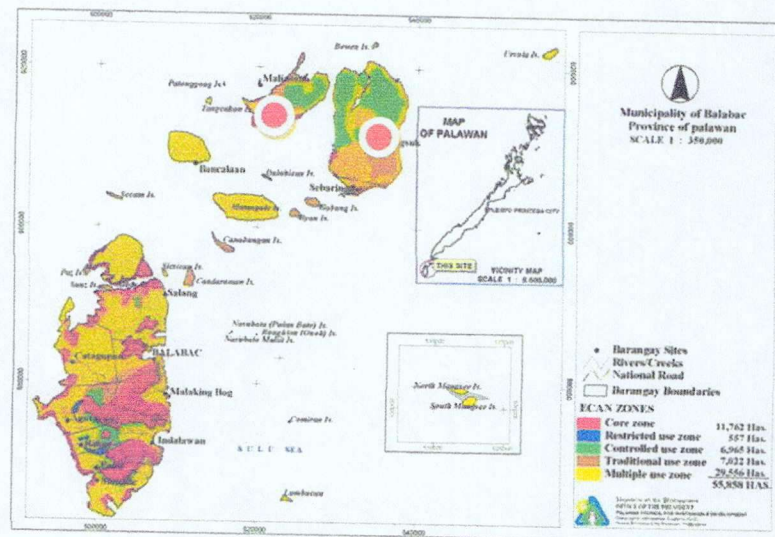


Figure 1. Location map of Pandanan and Bugsuk Island (red dots) in municipality of Balabac, Palawan (Map: PCSDS).

due to restricted access of locals and less presence of hunting, deer population thriving in significant numbers. Bugsuk Island is apparently the only place in the world where the highly threatened Balabac Mousedeer, Palawan Porcupine, Philippine Cockatoo and Palawan Hornbill co-exist in the same forest habitat in viable populations.

Both islands' marine ecosystem harbors several threatened marine turtle species. Portions locally declared as marine protected area remain as important breeding sites for grouper, wrasses and other high valued marine products.

Conservation Objectives

1. Maintain the species diversity and function of ecosystems and species at Pandanan and Bugsuk Island.
2. Identify and preserve priority sites for conservation and maintain their ecological functions.
3. Prevent or report to enforcing agencies illegal activities that compromise the integrity of the conservation area.

Conservation Targets

1. To increase number of Philippine Cockatoo breeding pairs on Pandanan/Bugsuk by at least 5% by 2024 (up from 23 and 10 from Pandanan and Bugsuk respectively in 2021).
2. Increase viable population of endangered and endemic target cavity-nesters by at least 3% by 2024 e.g. Palawan Hornbill (up from 15 breeding pairs in 2021), Blue-naped Parrot (up from 6 breeding pairs in 2021), in Pandanan and Bugsuk Islands from 2022-2024.
3. Reduce threats in the area by 50% from 2022-2024.

Methods

Deputized wardens patrol by foot, by boat and by truck monthly within sites. Patrol members use a technology-based system to register all observations (threats, status and wildlife data) in the android and transferred to a smart application to generate report (Critchlow et al., 2017; Teacher et al., 2013). Species to be monitored are based on their red-list status and their value as bioindicators (IUCN 2022). Ease of identification in the field was considered as well. The maps are generated and analysed through QGIS. Patrols are coordinated with the concerned barangay, private land owner/company and protected area office wherever it applies.

II. PATROL TEAM AND EFFORT

Forest monitoring and cavity nests intervention were made at Bugsuk and Pandanan Islands for this month by KFI and wildlife wardens: Rene Antonio, Ismael S. Dela Cruz Jr., Deo E. Aplid, Celso Badilla and Ariel C. Omog. Twenty-one monitoring-patrolling events were conducted in Pandanan covering a total distance of 71.9km while week-long visit in Bugsuk Island yielded nine forest patrolling-nest survey events with total of 31.8km distance. Monitoring and nest surveys were conducted at west and northwestern part of the island respectively.

Continuous community and settlement visit along the Sitios of Pandanan was made by our team while coastal patrolling was done within jurisdictional water of the Barangay. Regular patrolling in Pandanan was conducted solely by our wildlife wardens with assistance of village peace and order officer (Tanod) during coastal patrolling.

In Bugsuk, the KFI team is accompanied by the company security of Jewelmer Corporation. A volunteer in Sebaring submits his records of cockatoos in the area.

III. PATROL OBSERVATIONS

A. Wildlife observations

Five threatened cavity bird species were recorded this month inside Pandanan Island. These birds were represented by the following: Blue-headed racquet tail, Blue-naped parrot, Hill mynah, Palawan hornbill and Philippine cockatoo. Other bird species recorded are Asian koel, Common emerald dove, Green imperial pigeon, Mantanani scops owl, Stork-billed kingfisher and Tabon scrubfowl.

In Bugsuk island, recorded wildlife are as follows: Balabac mousedeer, Blue-naped parrot, Hill mynah, Palawan hornbill, Philippine cockatoo, Pied imperial pigeon and Tabon scrubfowl. Two snake species were also recorded: White-lipped tree viper (*Trimeresurus albolabris*) and Common mock viper (*Psammodynastes pulverulentus*). Sightings of foraging Green sea turtles and Hawksbill sea turtles were noted in northern Pandanan Island.



Figure 3: Snake species recorded as of June monitoring events: White-lipped tree viper (*Trimeresurus albolabris*) in Pandanan Island (left) and Common mock viper (*Psammodynastes pulverulentus*) at Bugsuk Island (Right, Photos: AOmog and RAntonio).

B. Philippine Cockatoo and Palawan Hornbill nest monitoring

Regular nest monitoring visit and intervention was completed as of June 30th. In total 21 nest trees are active and successfully occupied (20 nest tree recorded active as of May reporting). In terms of live young cockatoos, additional two hatchlings were discovered this month from two nests thus bringing to a total of 35 hatchlings for this year's breeding season on Pandanan island. However, two mortalities were later discovered from two nests hence 33 hatchlings were tagged using the DENR-marked leg bands and blood samples were collected respectively. Death of the two young birds is attributed to inclement weather and accidental fall from nest hole. No parasite or mites ever found in all young katalas. Successful fledglings of 17 individuals were already noted this month while other young birds are expected to leave their nest by the following weeks.

For Bugsuk island, 15 hatchlings were recorded and only 12 were banded while three young died at early life stage very likely to inclement weather as in the case of Pandanan. As of June monitoring, all banded young Katala successfully fledged out from their respective nest holes. Follow up nest checking by our team later confirmed the successful nest exits, no sign of nest predation or possible poaching activity.



Figure 4. Leg band application and collection of blood sample of cockatoos in Pandanan Island (left and center) and destroyed cockatoo egg, shells found below the nest branch (Right, Photos: KFI 2022).

Increase in number of Palawan Hornbill hatchlings was noted this month in Pandanan Island; additional eleven young were confirmed from seven nest holes. In total 12 young hornbills recorded, and successful fledgling already seen this month from one nest with one young hornbill. In Bugsuk Island a total of 12 identified nests are active and occupied; three of these are newly discovered during this monitoring visit. In term of hatchlings, 23 young hornbills were recorded of which two successfully fledged ahead of our schedule nest intervention. Remaining young in Bugsuk are expected to leave their nest hole within the next 10-15 days. No predation found in all active nest at the two islands.

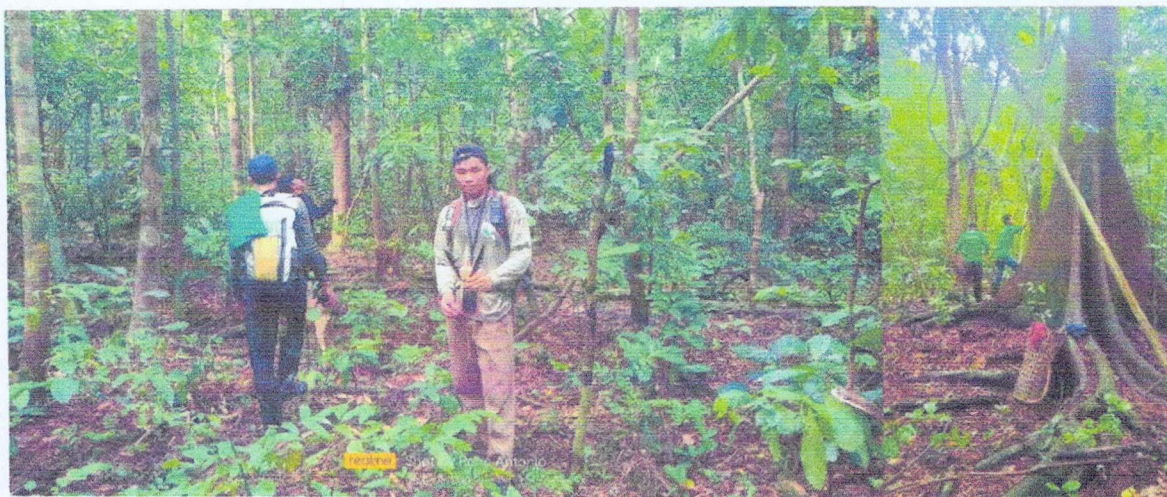


Figure 5. Newly discovered Palawan Hornbill nest trees, commonly characterized by the presence of fecal matters and hornbill wing feathers just below the nest hole (Photos: RAntonio).

C. Philippine Cockatoo roost counts and food providing tree monitoring

As of this month, highest count at roost site is 83 while lowest count is 36. Cockatoo numbers in roost site is starting to gain however occasional strong winds accompanied by torrential rainfall hinder and affects some of the cockatoo flocks especially those with new recruits or fledglings. In secondary roost site at Sebaring, roosting cockatoo numbers range from 2-7 as May, while 3-7 on June 2022. No direct issue or threats reported from Sebaring while soil

erosion and improper waste disposal by beach goers was noted in Malinsuno roost site. Attention of landowner was called while presentation of this issue will be made by KFI staff by the next regular barangay council meeting.

In terms of food source for Cockatoo, Hornbill and other wildlife, 13 tree and two vines species were fruiting at Bugsuk and Pandanan Islands. These plants were represented by the following: *Alocasia macrorrhizos*, Aloyaw, Amugis, Antipulo, Balite *Ficus sp.*, Buyon, Daop-daop vines, Ipil, Kasay, Kaliyat vines, Mainggit *Cananga odorata*, Parya-laot, Sahing, Santol and Talisay *Terminalia catappa* (Fig. 6). Further data collection of food preference by cockatoo is ongoing, available data will be included on future reporting.



Figure 6. Recorded fruits of forest trees in Bugsuk and Pandanan Islands: Ripe fruit of Sahing tree (left), young pods of Ipil tree (center) and ripe fruit of Parya-laot tree (Right, Photos: AOmog and RAntonio).

D. Community monitoring and threats observation

Community monitoring visit was conducted at the following settlements in Pandanan Island: Dalahican, Gabong and Magsakayan. No new transient local found on these sites.

Threat recorded this month was illegal logging at the site of Bodis-Kambangtuli and Arananan-Dalahican forest. As recorded by our team, the following trees were cut by chainsaw: Anaan (2), Bayoso (1), Impaw (1), Magloana (1), Marampuso (1) and Ugayan (3). Apparently, most of these trees were utilized and extracted lumbers are missing or possibly hauled by allegedly cutters. Based on remains and observation, cuttings are mainly made during the monitoring days of wildlife wardens at Bugsuk Island. Cuttings of forest trees are within the designated timberland pursuant to DENR land classification.



Figure 7. Illegal logging activity recorded within the designated timberland of Arananan-Dalahican coastal forest, Pandanan Island. Loggers cut small trees nowadays possibly to make sure they can finish up in a night to avoid confiscation by patrollers or other concern agencies (Photos: KFI 2022).

IV. ISSUES, CONSTRAINTS AND ACTIONS TAKEN

Illegal logging activity and intrusion on designated timberland continued in Pandanan Island. Continued documentation is done for each recorded threat. Regular patrolling continued particular in area of concern.

V. RECOMMENDATIONS

Establishment of wildlife or critical habitat on Pandanan Island is needed to hold and prevent further destruction of the remaining forest.

VI. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are indebted to our wildlife wardens for their patience and work: Ismael S. Dela Cruz Jr., Deo E. Aplid and Ariel C. Omog. Likewise, we thank our escorts from SCAA, Philippine Army who restlessly secured us every monitoring visit. Thank you very much to the Jewelmer Corporation by providing the KFI team full assistance during every visit in Bugsuk island especially to Sir Jacques Christopher Branellec and Ms. Vianney Brossard. We also extend our appreciation to the Council members of Barangay Bugsuk, Council members of Barangay Pandanan and Local Government Unit of Balabac Municipality for making the conservation project more effective and successful.

We are grateful to KFI family and board members: J-Kris Gano for the help, assistance and sharing expertise and ideas.

We are indebted and grateful for the support of the following organizations and agencies for supporting patrols and implementation of our work in Pandanan and Bugsuk Islands, Palawan (next page):



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KFI PATROL AND MONITORING REPORT ON FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY

June 2022 SUMMARY

Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary and its environs,
Narra, Palawan



48

Bilang ng nagawang
patrolya



0

Bilang ng illegal na
kailangang aksyunan



208

Kabuuang kilometrong naabot
ng patrolya



0

Bilang ng mga issues na
nai-report sa PAMO



67

Kabuuang oras ng
patrolya



0

Bilang ng naaresto



190

Pinakamataas na bilang sa
tulugan ng Katala



34

Bilang ng ibang uri ng
ibon na nakita



25

Pinakamataas na bilang
ng Katala sa kinakainan



200

Pananim ang naipamahagi



11

Uri ng halamang namumunga



Mandai
NATURE



Landau e.v.
Landau in der Pfalz



Stadtholding Landau in der Pfalz
LAOLA



Marion J. Packer
Trust



Age for Wildlife



ZOO HEIDELBERG



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The island is the pilot site of the Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Program since 1998. Due to intensive poaching, only 23-25 Philippine cockatoos were left on the island then. Key component of this project site is the warden scheme which involves ex-poachers as wildlife wardens whose main task is to patrol and protect the wildlife in particular the Philippine Cockatoo during and outside its breeding season. This scheme has proven to be efficient and lead to the dramatic recovery of the Philippine Cockatoo population to nearly 400 individuals as of to date. This makes RIWS the most important population of the species in the wild!

Not only Philippine Cockatoos live on the island, but a variety of other species, with an unusual high percentage of globally threatened and near-threatened taxa (IUCN 2019), considering the small size of Rasa. Noteworthy among the 112 recorded bird species are Red-headed Flameback *Chrysocolaptes erythrocephalus* (EN), Grey Imperial-pigeon *Ducula pickeringii* (VU) and Mantanani Scops-owl *Otus mantananensis* (NT).

Conservation Objectives

1. Maintain the species diversity and function of ecosystems and species within Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary.
2. Identify and preserve priority sites for conservation and maintain their ecological functions.
3. Prevent or report to enforcing agencies illegal activities that compromise the integrity of the conservation area.

Conservation Targets

1. To stabilize number of Philippine Cockatoo breeding pairs on Rasa Island and vicinity by 2024 (Baseline: average breeding pairs from 2019 to 2021: 33.0).
2. Conduct weekly patrol and permanent presence of wildlife wardens with daily reports during breeding season per year.
3. Conduct at least 12 school/community visits (with at least 20 percentage point increase in KAPP survey results for individual interventions) and one festival annually.
4. Rehabilitate at least one hectare per year through reforestation or enrichment planting within cockatoo foraging area.
5. Monitor and reduce threats in the area by 50% from 2022-2024; if any.

Methods

Deputised wardens patrol by foot or by boat monthly within site. Patrol members use a technology-based system to register all observations (threats, status and wildlife data) in the android and transferred to a smart application to generate report (Critchlow et al., 2017; Teacher et al., 2013). Species to be monitored are based on their red-list status and their value as bioindicators (IUCN, 2019). Ease of identification in the field was considered as well. The maps are generated and analyzed through QGIS/ArcGIS. Patrols are coordinated with the concerned barangay and protected area office wherever it applies.

II. PATROL TEAM AND EFFORT

The patrol and monitoring team members are our wildlife wardens and mainland volunteers: **REYNALDO ALBELAR, LORETO ALISTO, BERNITO BASIO, EDWIN BATAC, MARIO BATAC, LUCITO DANGIS**, Veronica Marcelo, Danilo Villaruz, Monico Beleg and Antonio Marcelo.

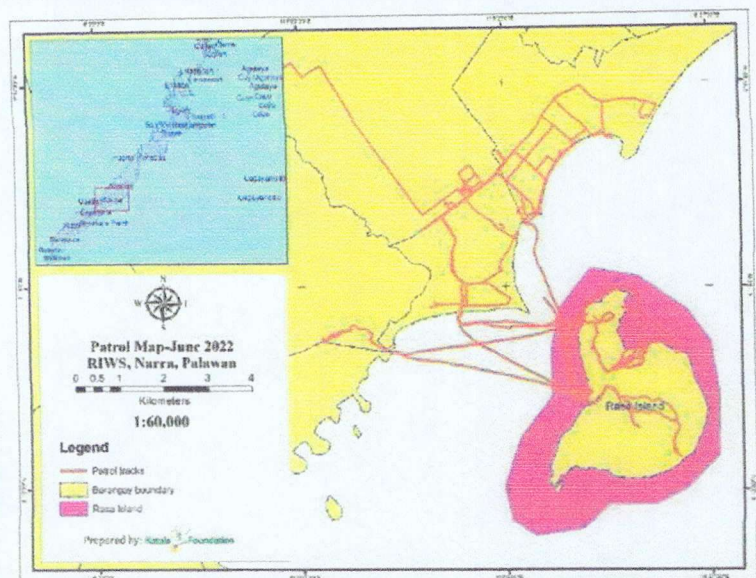


Figure 2. Patrol tracks in red marks in June 2022

In June 2022, three nest trees were infested with mites. The mites from the hatchlings and nest chambers were immediately treated with cock shampoo which were gone after number of visits and treatments. These five hatchlings were all in good condition and some had fledged already. Seven camera traps are positioned on Rasa. Endoscope is still utilized to check on deep nest chambers as the breeding season concludes. Data loggers are also deployed in nest trees. No expansion was recorded on lobster fry at Borbon. Floating cage was also placed far from Rasa boundary. Three teams of wardens on Rasa covered **208kms** of nest checking, wildlife monitoring and patrol around Rasa. Total precipitation in June 2022: **18mm** on Rasa, **16mm** on mainland.



Figure 3. Reynaldo checks on nest chamber with endoscope (left); Wardens altogether assisted with portable ladder to check on some nest trees (right) ©KFI



Figure 4. Reynaldo climbs on portable ladder to check on nest (left) while Mark collects biometrics of chicks (right) ©KFI

III. PATROL OBSERVATIONS

A. WILDLIFE OBSERVATIONS

In June 2022, three teams of wardens visited 69 nest trees on Rasa. 38 nest trees are occupied where a total of 67 eggs were recorded and 31 of which hatched. 17 hatchlings were banded and fledged this month. Two hatchlings are being monitored at northwest Rasa which we hope to band soon. The highest recorded number of cockatoos around nest trees during visits were six individuals. New fledglings were also observed around nest trees. Some flew immediately as wardens approached checking on nests while others were seen being fed by adult cockatoos.

Lucito counted **190 individuals** on traditional roost site on June 13 from 6:00-6:28am. On June 27 (6:29-6:36pm) and 28 (5:49-5:57am), Lucito recorded 173 and 181 individuals on traditional

roost site respectively. He also noted sleeping fledglings at roost site. No roosting cockatoos at Borbon station during sync counting. On the other hand, On June 28, one cockatoo went from Rasa to Borbon at 6:48pm and slept on coconut tree. On the same date, the last cockatoos noted going back to Rasa were at 5:45pm. There is strong Habagat (southwest monsoon) winds already felt in the area.

On June 27, the highest recorded foraging cockatoos were **25 individuals** at Antipuluan station crossing from mainland to Rasa from 5:11-5:39am. Lesser cockatoos were observed crossing to mainland this month. Less cockatoos were also observed on each monitoring station. Even on foraging site at Marcelo area, the highest frequenting cockatoos were 12 individuals. Probably, this happened because abundant food was present on Rasa. Next month's monitoring will focus on synchronized monitoring. Earliest cockatoos' flight to mainland was at 5:40am while the latest flight to Rasa was 6:09pm recorded at Borbon station, though one cockatoo was observed crossing from Rasa to Borbon at 6:48pm and even slept at coconut area. It went back to Rasa early in the morning in the next day. Cockatoos were still observed around foraging sites even between 9:00am-3:00pm.

In June 2022, other noted bird species were Red-headed Flameback/ Woodpecker, Nicobar Pigeon, Tabon Scrubfowl, Blue-headed Racquet-tail (BHRT), Osprey, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Egret sp., White-bellied Sea-eagle, Mantanani Scops-owl, Spotted Wood-owl, Great-billed Heron, Pied Imperial-Pigeon, Oriental Dwarf-kingfisher, White-collared Kingfisher, Changeable Hawk-eagle, Rufous Night-heron, Blue-Paradise Flycatcher/ Black-naped Monarch, Fruit-dove sp., Large-tailed Night-jar, Whimbrel, Reef Egret, Ashy Drongo, Green Imperial-Pigeon, Sunbird sp., Greater Coucal, Common Koel, Emerald Dove, Pipit, Asian Glossy Starling, Rufous-tailed Tailor-bird, Dollarbird and Zebra Dove. Blue-naped Parrot was still observed around and Monitor Lizard was frequently encountered on Rasa. On June 3, four cockatoos including two fledglings perched and called from a Tubo-bato then eventually flew to coastal forest. On June 5, two fledglings were calling on nest tree then transferred to another nest tree. On June 7, 8ind of cockatoos including two fledglings perched on Barenben at Alisto area. On June 17, three fledglings were observed around nest in southwest Rasa. On June 25, four cockatoos were seen at Alisto area. They were perching on Bogo and adult cockatoo was seen feeding a fledgling. 27ind of Rufous Night-Heron were noted on June 3, perching on Bogo then flew. No nest was found.



Figure 5. Nest checking using endoscope on Rasa: hatchlings from nest southwest (left) and spoiled egg from nest on northeast Rasa (right) ©KFI

Vegetation assessment

In June, areas in Kabaguhan, Kaburihan, Kaipilan, Dapdap, coastal camp and boundaries on Rasa Island are lush and green. Likewise, mangrove forest exhibits green vegetation, fruiting and flowering likewise. Leaf litters on ground are denser. Fruiting trees and vines: Pagatpat (dominant), Siar, Sapisapinet, Balindadagat, Ginlalid, Kalampinay, Balete, vine sp., Gubaay, Piagaw, Rhizophora sp. And other mangrove species. Flowering trees and vines: Pagatpat,

Barenben, Balindadagat, Ginlalid, Magtalisay, Kalampinay, Banaro, *Ceriops* sp., *Rhizophora* sp. and other mangrove species. Total of precipitation in June 2022: **18mm** on Rasa, **16mm** on mainland (Marcelo area).

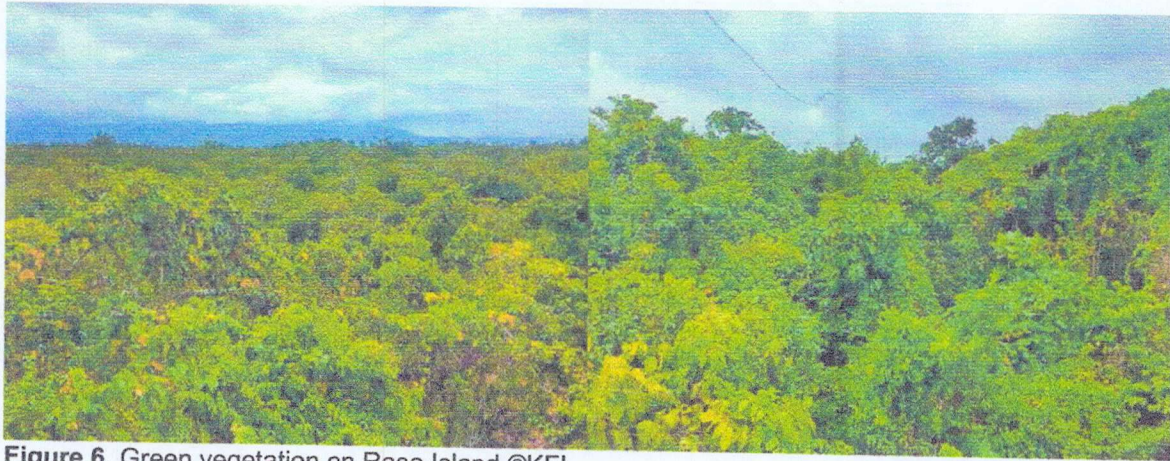


Figure 6. Green vegetation on Rasa Island ©KFI

B. THREAT OBSERVATION

No adverse human activities observed on Rasa during monitoring. No expansion was recorded on lobster fry at Borbon. Floating cage was also placed far from Rasa boundary.

Monitoring on marine resources and coconut plantations on Rasa. On June 4, three persons collected 15kgs of lato at camp entrance for 2hrs. Lucito noted broken coconut and coconut husks on June 2 at Alisto area. On June 10, four persons gathered 1000kgs of copra at Alisto area for 15 days. On June 15, four persons harvested 7000kgs of coconut at C. Batac area for four days. On June 18, three persons gathered 300kgs of copra at Satina area in 10 days while another three persons gathered 500kgs of copra at Deig area in 6 days. On June 25, Boyet Villarias and Efren Paragatos got their things for harvesting of coconut from Villarias area.

III. OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

On June 3, wardens assisted DENR on assessing on Rasa boardwalk and camp. Extension of camp roof on Rasa is accomplished (Fig. 7). This was done by wardens in between nest checking. KFI wardens, volunteers and staff in Narra conduct Katala Savings Club meeting regularly every 15th and end of the month (Fig. 7). Katala fiberglass boat is painted with logos and registered at LGU-Narra (Fig. 8).

16th Katala Festival in Narra, Palawan together with 19th Kalabukay Festival and Talusi Day in Dumarán, Palawan were celebrated on June 28 via Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Program (PCCP) Facebook page. Few joined the contests this year in comparison to the previous years possibly because of overlapping school activities e.g. graduations, moving-up recognitions and preparations of schools to face-to-face learning.

Wardens and Mark had meeting about deputation at Rasa camp with PAMO personnel on June 8. Bernito and Mark participated on 3-day orientation and training on LAWIN system for watershed conservation on June 20-22 held by LGU-Narra together with USAID (Fig. 9). On June 22, Anna talked with Antipuluan Bgy. Officials about PCCP updates while PAMO tackled solid waste management at Barangay and other laws relevant to environmental management (Fig. 9).

Relevant to KFI's new partnership with the Energy Development Corporation (EDC)-BINHI Program, personnel from EDC-BINHI personnel with Peter visited Katala Institute on June 10.



Figure 9. Talk re PCCP updates with Antipuluan Bgy. officials (left) and LAWIN orientation and training for watershed conservation and law enforcement stakeholders on (right) ©KFI

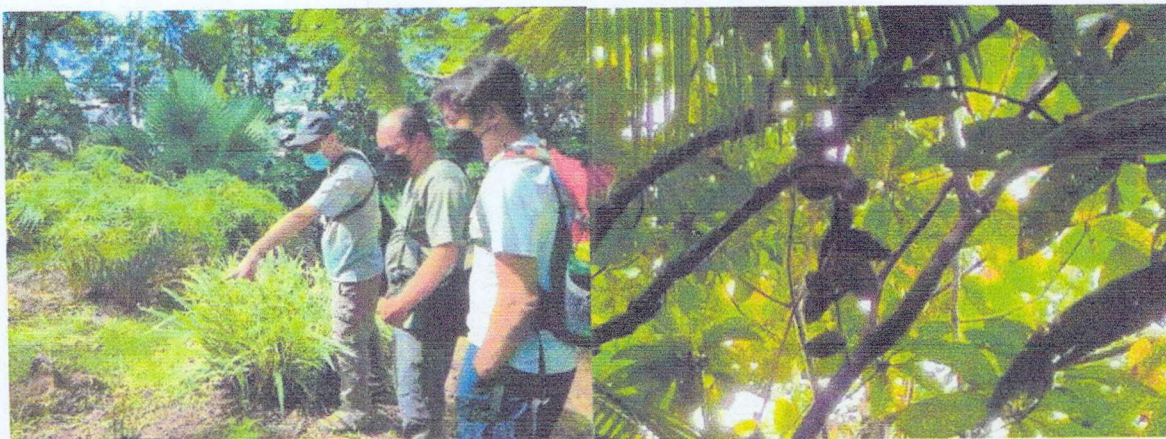


Figure 10. Peter introduced some palm species at Katala Institute to EDC staff (left) and Fruiting Potat *Barringtonia palawanensis* at Apis, Aborlan, good for wetland management (bottom) ©KFI



Figure 11. Guided Plant tour in Katala Institute on June 23-24, 2022 ©KFI

Consequently, they visited Taritien river and Apis lot in Aborlan. KFI has existing forest restoration initiatives, propagation of Palawan endemic species, establishment of arboretum, survey and documentation of Palawan endemic species which are all aligned with the BINHI main streamlining initiatives specifically for Palawan threatened species (Fig. 10).

On June 23, 10 and 8 students with their teachers from San Francisco Javier College participated in the test for Guided Plant Tour in Katala Institute (KI). Two sessions were conducted. In the next day, 18 students with Mr. Ismael Pacete from Narra Integrated School joined another session of guided plant tour in KI (Fig. 11).

PNP Aborlan Municipal Police Station initiated tree planting activity on June 7, 2022 at Plaridel National High School. 200 seedlings were provided by KFI which were then monitored by KFI staff. Ms. Indira Widmann was invited to give a message in the event which was ably delivered by Mr. Pacete. The event was participated by LGU-Aborlan, Plaridel NHS, PCG, Fire, local officials of Plaridel, Palawan PPO and KFI (Fig. 12).



Figure 7. Regular meeting on Katala Savings Club (left) and finished extension of roof of camp site (right) ©KFI



Figure 8. Painting of logos on fiberglass ©KFI



Figure 12. Gathering of seedlings from Katala Institute and tree planting at Plaridel NHS on June 7 initiated by Aborlan PNP ©KFI

IV. ISSUES, CONSTRAINTS AND ACTIONS TAKEN

Owners of lobster traps at Borbon, Panacan must be informed to not encroach inside Rasa boundary. Prescriptions for each zonation must be finalized and disseminated by PAO and with other PAMB members to encourage more active role in protection. Update on pending cases e.g. establishment of fish corral on Rasa is appreciated. Vigilance as to collection of fossilized Taklobo must continue; monitoring around Rasa at night is also encouraged.

V. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The PCCP acknowledges the key players on the ground: our wildlife wardens and mainland volunteers: REYNALDO ALBELAR, LORETO ALISTO, BERNITO BASIO, EDWIN BATAAC, MARIO BATAAC, LUCITO DANGIS, Veronica Marcelo, Danilo Villaruz, Monico Beleg and Antonio Marcelo. Thank you very much to the LGU-Narra through Mayor Danao and staff, Vice Mayor Lumba, and the municipal council, department heads, barangay officials, and everyone in the LGU for their unrelenting support and appropriation per year for our wardens and volunteers. Also, we thank the Narra community for pursuing the cause of cockatoo conservation in Narra. We also thank the PAMO through former PASu Pablo Cruz for his leadership and for PASu Ma. Teresa V. Ayson for her kind attention. We are grateful to KFI family and board members for their help, assistance and sharing expertise and ideas. We are indebted to the following organizations and agencies for providing funds for this project:



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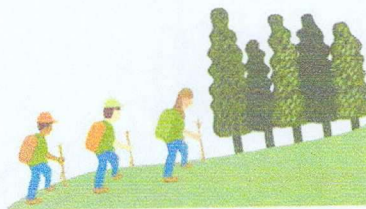
KFI PATROL AND MONITORING REPORT ON FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY

June 2022 SUMMARY
IPPF-PPC, Palawan



16

Bilang ng nagawang
patrolya



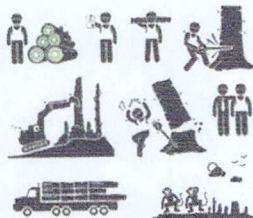
213.79

Kabuuang kilometrong naabot ng
patrolya



100.27

Kabuuang oras ng patrolya



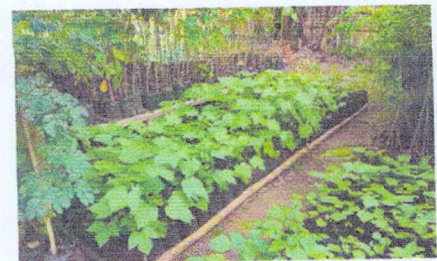
4

Bilang ng illegal na
aktibidades



0

Bilang ng naaresto



1605

Bilang ng halaman sa nursery



45

Pinakamataas na bilang sa
tulugan ng Katala



3

Pinakamataas na
grupo ng Talusi na nakita



25

Pinakamataas na bilang ng
katala sa kinakainan



Bilang ng pugad na may in-
dikasyon ng cavity nester

12

14



Bilang ng inakay ng Katala
at iba pang cavity nester



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KFI PATROL AND MONITORING REPORT ON FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY IWAHIG PRISON AND PENAL FARM (IPPF)

June 2022

Prepared by:

Matt Brian P. Ong, Vicente Abendan Jr., Peter Widmann and Indira D.L. Widmann

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSERVATION AREA, CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES, CONSERVATION TARGETS, AND METHODS

IPPF is part of a larger landscape, the Sulu Sea plain, which comprises the lowlands of central Palawan facing the Sulu Sea and including areas of Puerto Princesa City and the municipalities of Narra and Aborlan. The area is bordered by the Victoria-Anepahan Range to the west and the Sulu Sea to the east; the northern edge runs roughly along 9° 47' N, the southern along 9° 9' N. Philippine Cockatoos have long been known to persist in the IPPF south of Puerto Princesa City. More recent are flocks of cockatoos from Rasa feeding on the mainland of Narra, and from Iwahig Penal Colony feeding in coastal areas of Puerto Princesa City, particularly in the compound of the Western Command (WESCOM) and Bgy. Banca-Bancao. Large parts of the coastal plains are cultivated, mainly with coconuts and rice paddies, particularly in Narra and Iwahig, where irrigation is available. Extensive areas of disturbed grassland-forest mosaics persist, which are habitats for a surprisingly high number of Palawan endemics. One explanation for this phenomenon could be that the present vegetation resembles that of some periods in the Pleistocene. These areas are used as pastures, but also for the collection of a wide variety of forest products. Grass fires are a regular occurrence and partly the vegetation is adapted to these occurrences (*Antidesma* fire savanna). Extensive evergreen and semi-evergreen lowland forests exist at the foot of the Victoria Anepahan

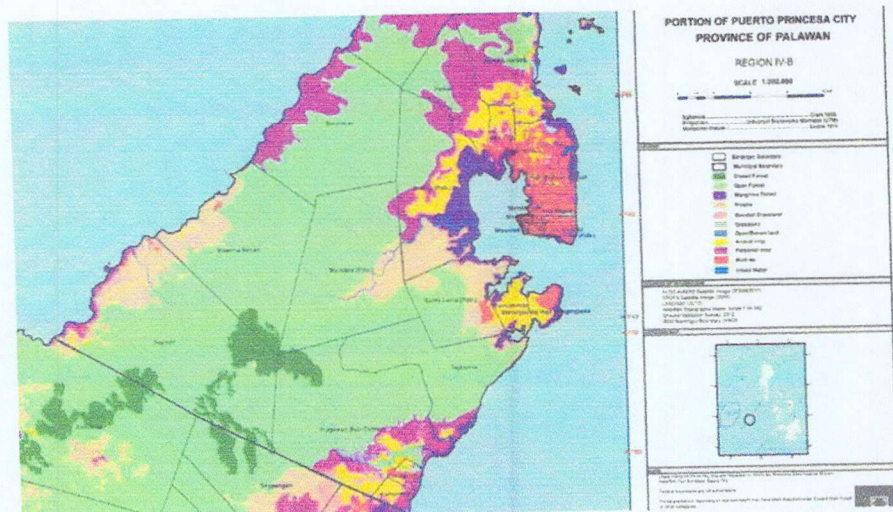


Figure 1. Land use of southern Puerto Princesa, including IPPF according to NAMRIA. Large areas were classified as open forest (bright green signature); this is not in line with observations on site, where large areas of closed forests were recorded particularly in portions of Iwahig, Tagburus ("Zigzag") and Montible (Source: NAMRIA)

particularly in the compound of the Western Command (WESCOM) and Bgy. Banca-Bancao. Large parts of the coastal plains are cultivated, mainly with coconuts and rice paddies, particularly in Narra and Iwahig, where irrigation is available. Extensive areas of disturbed grassland-forest mosaics persist, which are habitats for a surprisingly high number of Palawan endemics. One explanation for this phenomenon could be that the present vegetation resembles that of some periods in the Pleistocene. These areas are used as pastures, but also for the collection of a wide variety of forest products. Grass fires are a regular occurrence and partly the vegetation is adapted to these occurrences (*Antidesma* fire savanna). Extensive evergreen and semi-evergreen lowland forests exist at the foot of the Victoria Anepahan

Range, on fossil limestone reefs in Narra and Aborlan, south of the Bay of Puerto and in the Iwahig Penal Colony. Particularly the latter area is of outstanding conservation importance. All endemic lowland bird species are recorded from the area. Globally threatened species, aside from the Cockatoo, include Palawan Peacock-pheasant *Polyplectron napoleonis*, Blue-headed Racquet-tail *Prioniturus platenae*, Palawan Hornbill *Anthracoceros marchei*, Red-headed Flameback *Chrysocolaptes erythrocephalus*, Great Slaty Woodpecker *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*, Falcated Wren-babbler *Ptilocichla falcata*, and Palawan Flycatcher *Ficedula platenae*. Because of the abundance of brackish and freshwater wetlands Iwahig Penal Colony is an important wintering ground for waterbirds, including the endangered Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor*.

Conservation Objectives

1. Maintain the species diversity and function of ecosystems and species within Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm (IPPF).
2. Identify and preserve priority sites for conservation and maintain their ecological functions.
3. Prevent or report to enforcing agencies illegal activities that compromise the integrity of the conservation area.

Conservation Targets

1. Increased number of Philippine Cockatoo breeding pairs in Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm by at least 10% by 2024 (Baseline: average breeding pairs 2019 to 2021: 9.3).
2. Reduced threats in the area by 50% from 2022 to 2024.
3. Restored at least two hectares of cockatoo breeding and foraging habitats annually by 2024
4. Established a critical habitat for the Philippine cockatoo and other threatened wildlife species within the Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm and support the protection of the proposed Montible watershed.

Methods

Deputized wardens patrol by foot or by boat monthly within site. Patrol members use a technology-based system to register all observations (threats, status and wildlife data) in the android and transferred to a smart application to generate report ([Critchlow et al., 2017](#); [Teacher et al., 2013](#)). Species to be monitored are based on their red-list status and their value as bioindicators ([IUCN, 2019](#)). Ease of identification in the field was considered as well. The maps are generated and analyzed through QGIS.

Patrols are coordinated with the concerned barangay, prison farms, protected area office wherever it applies.

II. PATROL TEAM AND EFFORT

The patrol team composed of KFI, PCSDS, DENR, IPPF personnel, and wildlife wardens conducted 16 patrols and monitoring at foraging areas within the city, breeding habitat, and the surroundings of the penal farm. The team covered **213.79Km in June**. Please refer to the list of team members on the last page.

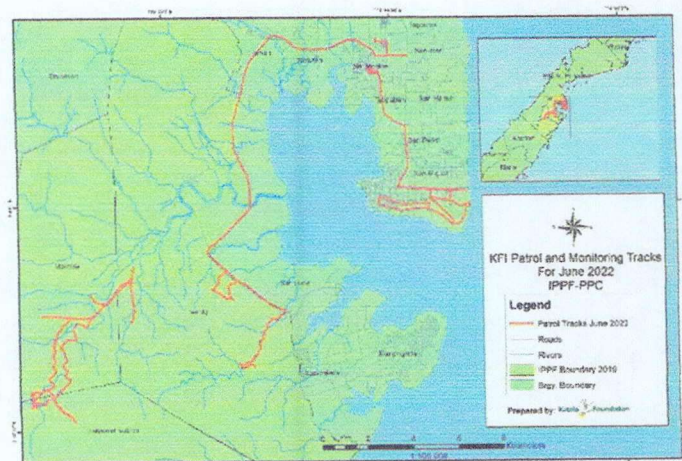


Figure 2. Patrol tracks for June 2022 ©KFI

III. PATROL OBSERVATIONS

A. WILDLIFE OBSERVATIONS

- *Intensive monitoring in foraging and roosting areas continued.* Roosting cockatoos were monitored at two roost sites within the penal farm and the city area. The highest recorded count in the city was 48; while there are no roosting cockatoos in the Montible roost site, some were observed roosting in their natural breeding grounds in Luzviminda, Sta. Lucia, and Montible. During the daytime (5:05 am–6:05 am), cockatoos in the city were observed foraging in Pagatpat before dispersing in different parts of the city. In San Miguel, 1–4 cockatoos were flying towards Cabiguen St., heading towards Robinsons. Some concerned citizens also reported 4–13 individuals near the city coliseum going to BM beach; in Valencia St., 10–13 cockatoos were reported foraging on Malunggay pods; while in Manalo St., Barangay Milagrosa, 9–11 Cockatoos were observed feeding on African tulip trees. We noted that some figs like Balete were observed fruiting in the city. While Ipil-ipil and Malunggay are abundant, Pagatpat fruits are scarce. In Montible, cockatoos were recorded in Malabo Forest, Menor, and Tagatalaba forests. Some were crossing the Malinao River and Bacoco River to Iwahig central to forage.
- The composite team of KFI, DENR, and wildlife wardens conducted a ten-day nest and habitat monitoring in Montible, Inagawan, Sta. Lucia, and Luzviminda forests. Twelve nest trees and three potential nest trees were visited. All potential nest trees were in the Montible area. As of this month, six hatchlings of the Philippine cockatoo were recorded, four were banded, and biometric data and blood samples were also collected during the monitoring. One of the six hatchlings was rescued to save from potential poaching as signs were indicative in the area. As of June, of the recorded 12 eggs of the Philippine cockatoo half hatched. Other cavity nesters recorded for this year's breeding season are the Blue-naped parrot with seven hatchlings, two of which were possibly poached, one died due to scarcity of food causing abnormality in limbs. The Hill myna with three eggs failed to hatch, while a Dollarbird was also recorded, but the egg was believed to have been predated or dropped in the nest tree. Some individuals of cockatoos were observed sleeping in some nest trees. Feces and feathers were seen inside nest cavities in known and potential nest trees.
- *Observation of wildlife and other cavity nesters monitoring.* At least three Palawan Hornbills foraging on figs were seen in Montible. Blue-naped parrots were also present in all areas visited for the month. We also recorded a Blue-headed racket-tail inside the Montible sub-colony and in Tagatalaba River; at least four were also observed near one of the known nest trees in Sta. Lucia. Other avian species recorded in June include tracks of Palawan peacock pheasant (female), Hill myna, Red-headed Flameback, Great Slaty Woodpecker, White-bellied Sea eagle, juvenile Crested Serpent Eagle, Oriental Dwarf Kingfisher, Black-naped Oriole, Common Iora, Palawan Drongo, Oriental Dollarbird, Palawan tit, Rufous-tailed tailorbird, Palawan fairy blue-bird, White-vented Shama, Grey-capped Emerald dove, Hooded Pitta, Philippine Scrubfowl. Non-avian species include Palawan-Flying Squirrel, Palawan Tree Squirrel, Palawan Stink badger, Palawan bearded pig, Palawan porcupine (tracks), and Paradise tree snake.



Figure 3. Oriental Dollarbird in Montible.
@KFI



Figure 4. Four Philippine cockatoo hatchlings that were banded during the nest monitoring for the month (right) @KFI

B. THREAT OBSERVATIONS

In Luzviminda, encroachment was still prominent during our visit; at least two trees were cut down, and a charcoal pit was seen operating, but no individuals were seen in the area. Meanwhile, the construction of a house or tribal hall was seen near the Malinao River in Montible. It was suspected that the previously confiscated lumber near the area was used to make the house. We also saw some snares in Malabo, St. Lucia, and Luzviminda. The team disarmed and collected the snares where the tracks of wild pigs, porcupines, and peacocks were seen.

IV. OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

- *Katala Foundation partners with EDC-BINHI to conserve threatened Palawan flora.* On June 3, 2022, the Katala Foundation executives signed a memorandum of agreement with the Energy Development Corporation under the BINHI program, which aims to conserve and protect threatened Palawan trees. On June 11, together with BINHI representatives, KFI conducted fieldwork in Mt. Thumbpeak, where the team found the *Schefflera foxworthyi*, locally known as Panagang (Tagbanua). The tree's last documentation was in 1911 and was rediscovered after 111 years. Some priority species were in higher elevations, so the team further survey in the area. We also recorded another priority species, the Palawan Narig, which was also fruiting, but an unidentified insect infested most of the fruits.
- On June 8, KFI, DENR, IPPF, and other local government units celebrated Philippine environment month; in line with this, a nationwide tree planting activity was conducted within a graduated NGP site located in Barangay Montible. The team planted a total of 300 Narra seedlings to supplement the reforestation within the deforested area.
- *Construction of artificial nest boxes.* Last year, Palawan was devastated by typhoon Odette; almost half of the known trees in IPPF were destroyed. To supplement the scarcity of nest trees, KFI installed some artificial nest boxes in Montible and Iwahig. Construction of four cockatoos and two Palawan hornbill artificial nest boxes is ongoing and will be installed prior to next year's breeding season.
- *"Baragatan sa Palawan Festival 2022".* KFI's flagship species were prominently displayed at the festival's parade in the city. The KFI mascots to include the Philippine Cockatoo, Palawan Hornbill, Palawan Pangolin, and Palawan Forest Turtle, along with the debut of the newest addition to KFI's flagship species, the Palawan Porcupine joined the parade and entertained the crowd.

V. ISSUES, CONSTRAINTS, AND ACTIONS TAKEN

- During the monitoring, we observed several illegally cut trees, especially in Luzviminda and Sta. Lucia area. Likewise, the extended encroachment in Malabo Forest should be addressed with new structures being put up near the Malinao River. We hope these area acted upon asap.
- Increased patrolling in the sites is necessary to avert further destruction of lowland forests.
- Rebuilding of our nursery in Montible is on going.
- Due to Typhoon Odette, only six nest trees of the Philippine cockatoos and six other nests for cavity nesters were active this year. We were lucky to find three new nest trees and three potential nest trees for the year; nevertheless, search for new nest trees will still be scheduled.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are grateful and appreciative to our partners from the DENR-CENRO Puerto Princesa City through CENRO Office and Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS) through Atty. Matta, Western Command, and Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm (IPPF) through CSupt. Joel R. Calvelo for their unrelenting support.

We also appreciate the help of Mr. Jessie Escandalio and Rogelio Abison of DENR, Mr. Mark Espanola and Jeny Becira of PCSD, and CTOIII Earl Jude A. Arias from the IPPF. We also want to thank those community members who send us their cockatoo sightings in the city.

To all those who, in one way or the other, had contributed to the achievement of our shared vision for the conservation of biodiversity in the IPPF, great thanks!

We are indebted to the following organizations and agencies for providing funds for this project:



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Figure 5. Snapshots during nest monitoring, leg banding, blood sample collection, and tree planting activity (upper), charcoal pit, and snare that were recorded in Luzviminda (lower) ©MB.Ong, KFI



Figure 6. Snapshots during the rediscovery of *Schefflera foxworthyi* (top photos) and snapshots during Baragatan Festival. © MBong, KFI



KFI PATROL AND MONITORING REPORT ON FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY Dumaran, Palawan

June 2022

Prepared by:

Michael F. Plazos, Lemuel Pabico, Peter Widmann and Indira D. L. Widmann

I. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE CONSERVATION AREA, CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES, CONSERVATION TARGETS AND METHODS.

Dumaran is situated in north-eastern Palawan between 10°22' and 10°41'N and 119°28' and 119°55'E. Nine Barangays are situated on the Palawan mainland, seven on western Dumaran Island. The island is situated in the Sulu Sea and separated by a ca. seven km wide channel from the mainland.

On Dumaran Island only a few small and isolated forest patches remain, none of them larger than 103 ha. The most abundant formation is evergreen and semi-evergreen lowland forest with Ipil *Intsia bijuga*, Amugis *Koordersiodendron pinnatum* being emergent tree species of commercial value. Ornithological surveys conducted by Katala Foundation so far yielded 136 species from the island. A prominent species of conservation concern is the Philippine Cockatoo, which can be found with viable populations in the mangroves and forest remnants of Dumaran Island, but apparently not anymore on the mainland. The last remaining forest patches are therefore of global conservation concern. This notion is supported by the recent records of other globally threatened species, particularly the Palawan Forest Turtle *Siebenrockiella leytenensis* (CR). Other species of conservation concern are Palawan Hornbill *Anthracoceros marchei* (VU), Blue-headed Racquet-tail (VU), and Palawan Pencil-tailed Tree-mouse *Chiropodomys calamianensis* (DD).

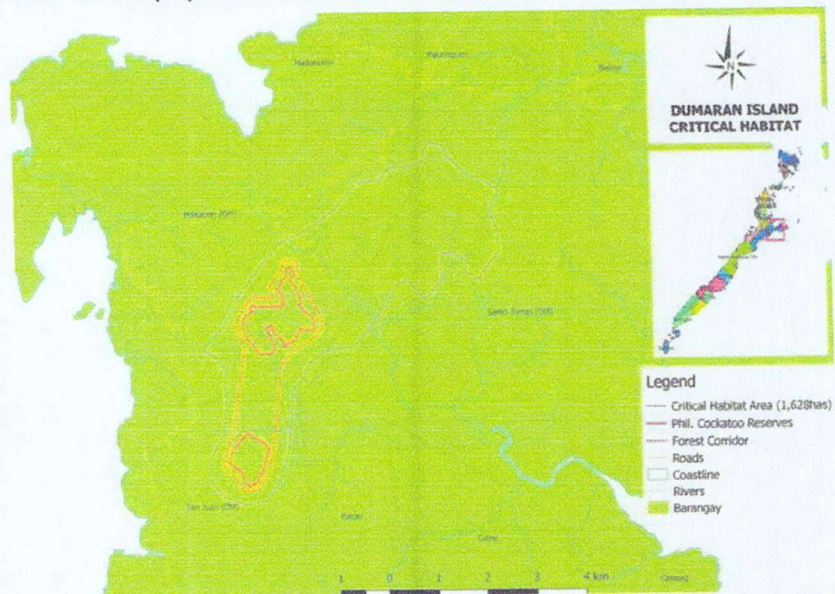


Figure 1. Dumaran Island Critical Habitat connects two locally declared cockatoo reserves and establishes a corridor through reforestation and assisted regeneration.

KFI PATROL AND MONITORING REPORT ON FOREST AND BIODIVERSITY

June 2022 SUMMARY Dumaran Island Critical Habitat Dumaran, Palawan



12

Bilang ng nagawang
patrolya



32.22

Kabuuang kilometrong naabot ng
patrolya



8.69

Kabuuang oras ng
patrolya



6621

Bilang ng natanim



23

Bilang ng nabisitang pugad at
ANB ng mga cavity nesters



0

Bilang ng ilegal na
gawain na naobserba



16

Pinakamataas na bilang sa
tulugan ng Katala



4

Pinakamataas na
grupong Talusi na nakita



30

Nakitang namumunga at
namumulaklak na puno



Habitat degradation and destruction, rather than poaching, remain the biggest challenge for cockatoo conservation in Dumarán.

The Dumarán Island Critical Habitat (DICH), comprising 1,628 ha, was established through PCSD Resolution No. 14-513 that connects the two existing cockatoo reserves through a corridor and extends to include remaining forest fragments in the area (Fig. 1). This is the first critical habitat established in the Province of Palawan. A Local Protected Area Management Committee (LPAMC) functions as its interim management body.

Conservation Objectives

1. Maintain the species diversity and function of ecosystems and species within the declared Critical Habitat.
2. Identify and preserve priority sites for conservation and maintain their ecological functions.
3. Prevent and report to enforcement agencies illegal activities that compromise the integrity of the conservation area.

Conservation Targets

1. Increased number of Philippine Cockatoo breeding pairs on Dumarán by at least 20% by 2024 (Baseline: average breeding pairs 2019 to 2021: 5.0);
2. Increased percentage points in KAPP survey results by at least 20%;
3. Pursued supplementation of Philippine Cockatoos using suitable rescued birds;
4. Reforested or enrichment-planted at least eight hectares per year;
5. Reduced threats in the area by 50% from 2022-2024.

Methods

Deputized wardens patrol by foot within site and there are times by boat especially when patrolling is done along the mangroves area or within the separate island. Patrol members use a technology-based system to register all observations (threats, status, and wildlife data) in the android and transferred them to a smart application to generate reports (Critchlow et al., 2017; Teacher et al., 2013). Species to be monitored are based on their red-list status and their value as bio-indicators (IUCN, 2019). Ease of identification in the field was considered as well. The maps are generated and analyzed through ArcGIS. Patrols are coordinated with the concerned barangay, LGU, and Bantay-Dumarán wherever it applies.

II. PATROL TEAM AND EFFORT

Regular monitoring of forested areas inside and outside the DICH were conducted by KFI staff and wardens: Michael Plazos, Nestor Arzaga, Orlando Balmonte, Felipe Condesa, Eddie Derecho, Angelu Paduga, Maximo Pineda and volunteers Domingo Sy and Andres Aurelio.

The team recorded fruiting trees, threats, and other wildlife observed. Suitable driftwoods to be used as artificial nest boxes (ANB) were also collected if available. Nest monitoring and checking were also conducted in which 14 nest trees of several cavities were visited.

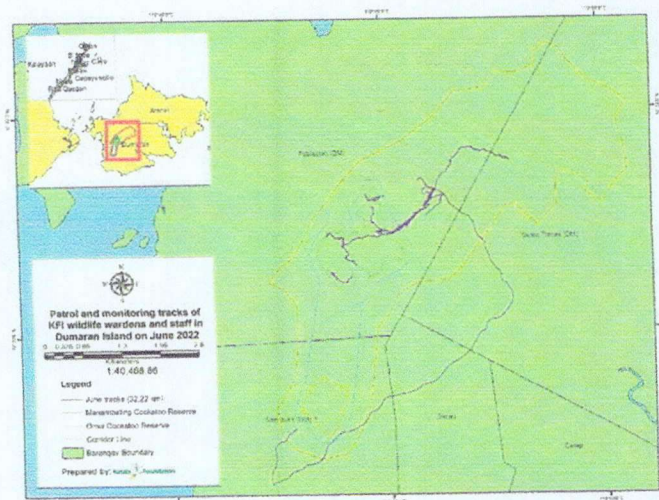


Figure 2. Patrol tracks of wildlife wardens in June@ KFI

Monthly patrols covered 32.22km distance from 12 patrols and 8.69 hours within the Omoi and Manangbaling Protected Areas, forested area within Bulalakaw, Camaya, Candez, Kasipulo, and San Juan. No threats were observed during monitoring and remains of sewed-cut timbers (felled trees during Typhoon Odette) were prevalent in the area.

Regular monitoring in the roost was conducted for the month. Eleven to 16 cockatoos were observed at the site. There were mostly thirteen in the roost every morning (16 times) and afternoon counts (17 times). Cloudy and fair weather was observed with two days of scattered weak rainfall.

PATROL OBSERVATIONS

Philippine Cockatoo breeding season assessment and monitoring

Three Philippine Cockatoo nests were monitored. One nest has no sign of occupation and the two other nests were recorded to have signs of occupation e.g., cut twigs at the base of trees and sometimes visiting cockatoos but no eggs ever yet recorded.



Figure 3. Signs of occupation recorded in nest trees include cut twigs and feathers (left); visiting cockatoos on one of the nest trees (center); and a wildlife warden as he climbs a tree (right). @ KFI

Supplementation of natural population

Released birds in recent years were now foraging and inhabiting the island just like the wild Cockatoos. They were sighted passing, perching, and feeding on wild fruits at Omoi, Candez Area, Bgy. Poblacion, Bgy. Bacao, and Bgy. San Juan. No rescued hatchlings were recorded yet in Dumaran and none for release yet so far. Three ANB of the said species were recorded with cut twigs on the ground, feathers, and feces on nests and roosting cockatoos. A camera trap used to monitor one of the ANBs revealed that cockatoos are roosting in these boxes and emerge from the ANBs between 5AM and 6PM. They initially perched on a nearby tree before flying to forage and then go back to the ANB between 5PM and 6PM. Movement in the night was also recorded through the camera traps. Tagged cockatoos were recorded visiting the ANBs.



Figure 4. Observation of visiting cockatoos in an ANB @ KFI

The barangay captain of San Juan told one of our volunteers that three to four tamed cockatoos frequent the corn plantation of some barangay residents. Dumaran residents knew that feeding and taking care of cockatoos are prohibited, and thus, get rid of them whenever they went to houses and fields.



Figure 5. Corn consumed by cockatoos allegedly those released ones as claimed by residents of Bgy. San Juan @ KFI

Foraging

Most of the trees in the phenology plots of Omoi, Candez, and Manangbaling were not fruiting except for Kulayan, Kalampinay, Taluto, and Pagatpat. Trees in these plots are in various stages of leaf growth and abscission. In Lagan phenology plots, all trees of Pagatpat were flowering and fruiting with no visible leaf loss.

Thirty food-providing trees were recorded during this month. These are Apatot, Banaba, Banga, Bangkudo, Barok, Baslayan, Berie, Binunga, Bunuang, Catmon, Dangkalan, Kalampinay, Kulayan, Kuliat, Imamangal, Inagdong, Iniam, Iniol, Ipil, Lapnog, Luwas-Luwas, Magabo, Pagatpat, Panapuan, Saleng, Tagalilong, Taluto and Tebey.



Figure 6. Flowering Kuliat (top-left) and fruits of Bituun (top-right), Balun- saging (bottom-left), and Tagulilong (bottom-right). @ KFI

Palawan Hornbill Monitoring

There were one to four hornbills observed during monitoring on nine areas in the island namely: Omoi, Candez, Kasipulo, Manangbaling, Bacao, Otok, Luyang, Poblacion and Baing. They were observed calling, perching, and making noise on Cashew, Catmon, Kulayan, Mangroves, Coconut, Taluto, Domalta, Maniksik, Mango, Ipil, and Acacia trees and calling from the forested area, nursery main, and coconut plantation. Two hornbill nests were monitored but no signs of occupation observed.



Figure 7. A Palawan Hornbill recorded during monitoring@ KFI

Other cavity nesters

Three known Blue-naped Parrot nests have two fledglings each while a recently discovered nest of the species has two fledglings. Four Blue-headed Racket-tail nests were visited including newly discovered nests; the latter has two fledglings while one of the known nests has three fledglings. Other cavity nester species with recorded nests were the Red-headed Woodpecker (two nests with one nest having two fledglings), White-bellied Woodpecker with one nest having one fledgling, and one White-collared Kingfisher nest with two fledglings.

Five ANBs were occupied by several cavity nesters. Three of these were occupied by the Oriental Dollarbird; four hatchlings were recorded in one of these nests. One was occupied by a Brown Hawk Owl with two fledglings. Another was occupied by a Blue-naped Parrot with one fledgling.

Other wildlife species

Thirty-nine species were observed in the Biodiversity Monitoring System (BMS) stations in DICH while 43 species were recorded at the reforestation site. Twenty species were recorded in both areas and these are: Palawan Hornbill, Common Iora, Blue-naped Parrot, Hooded Pitta, Spotted Dove, Palawan Monitor Lizard, Dollar bird, Black-naped Oriole, Stork-billed Kingfisher, Hill myna, Asian Glossy Starling, Red Jungle-fowl, Pink Necked-green Pigeon, Blue-Headed Racquet-tail, Zebra Dove, Barred Button Quail, Yellow-throated Leafbird, Lovely Sunbird, Bar-bellied Cuckoo Shrike.



Figure 8. Perched White-collared Kingfisher (left); and hatchlings of a Palawan Bulbul (right) @ KFI

Ground camera trap recorded wildlife such as Tabon Scrubfowl, Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel, Hooded Pitta, and Long-tailed Macaque.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

There are currently 9202 wildlings in the main nursery after 239 were collected by wildlife wardens and 4898 released for planting. Most of the wildlings are Nato, Palomaria, and Dumaran. The same number of wildlings were recorded in Candez satellite nursery (1289); no wildlings died nor were released in the said nursery. In Manambaling satellite nursery there are 1229 wildlings after 98 were released for planting and three were collected. There are no wildlings in the growth chamber. Regular activities in the nursery e.g., potting, watering, and cleaning, were continuous. Highest rainfall record was recorded in Candez monitoring station i.e., 310mm followed by Omoi monitoring station i.e., 274mm. Lagan experienced the least rainfall, with only 27mm rainfall.



Figure 9. Wildlife recorded in ground camera traps: Hooded Pitta (top-left); Tabon Scrubfowl (top-right); Long-tailed Macaque (bottom-left); and Northern Palawan Tree Squirrel (bottom-right). @ KFI



Figure 10. Regular activities in the nursery include potting and cleaning of wildlings. @ KFI

A total of 6621 wildlings were planted for this month. Included in this were the 1000 wildlings planted during the recent Kalabukay Festival. The remaining 5621 wildlings were planted in Omoi reforestation area. Planted wildlings belong to seven species which are Baslayan (1276), Iniol (200), Ipil (100), Magabo (450), Narra (250), Nato (2365), Palomaria (1980).



Figure 11. and tree planting activity during the Kalabukay Festival (bottom) . @ KFI

KFI-Dumaran participated in a tree-planting facilitated by Dumaran LGU last June 7, 2022. One-hundred fifty (150) seedlings were released from the nursery for the said activity. They also participated in the Kalabukay Festival parade last June 18, 2022 and in the tree-planting activity last June 19, 2022. We have also participated in regular meetings such as ECAN board meeting (June 16, 2022) and MDC meeting (June 23, 2022). KFI was also awarded the Gawad Lakas Galing Dumareño 2022 on June 25, 2022 for their contribution to the growth and development of the municipality of Dumaran.



Figure 12. KFI received two awards during the Gawad Lakas Galing Dumareño 2022. @ KFI

The closing of the 19th Kalabukay Festival was held on June 28, 2022, live on the Facebook Page of PCCP alongside the closing of the Kataala Festival on Narra. Participants in the photo essay, photo poem, show me a picture, bilao art contest, and know me paint me were awarded for their participation. Their works were also published on the page to bring awareness to our followers on the importance of education towards conservation. A total of 575 people was reached with 333 engagements during the live ceremony. The LGU of Dumaran has disbursed the cash incentives for the participating winners for the contests.

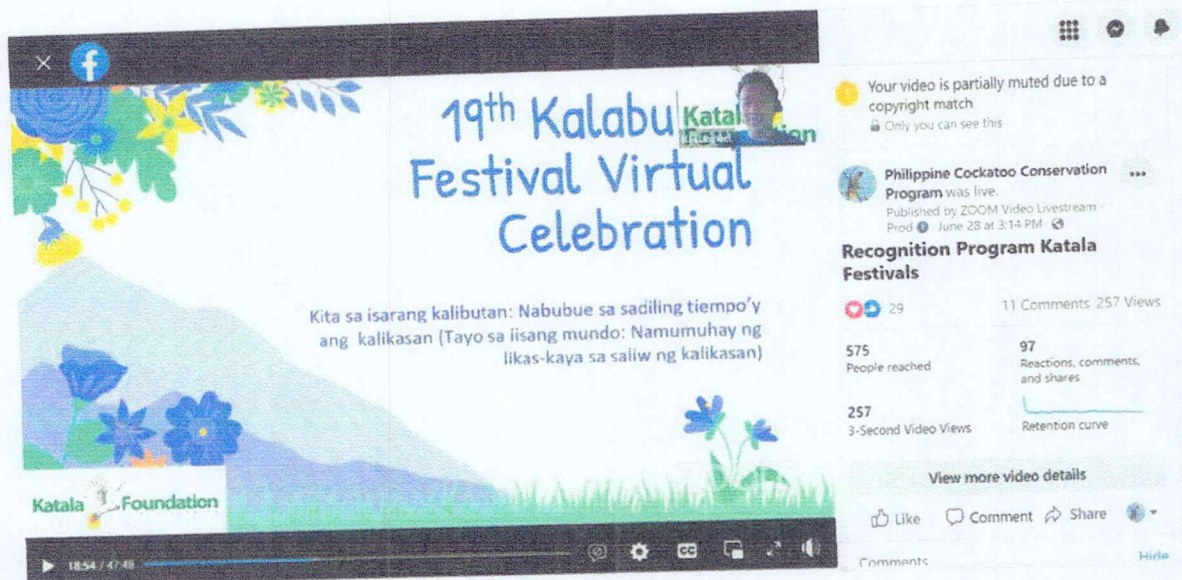


Figure 13. Closing ceremony of the 19th Kalabukay Festival last June 28, 2022@ KFI

The distribution of housing aid for the victims of Typhoon Odette was concluded this month. Monitoring of each household will be continually moving forward. Construction of the KEEC has started this month.



Figure 14. Construction works started in KEEC (top); and monitoring of housing material recipients in Dumaran (bottom). @ KFI

ISSUES, CONSTRAINTS AND ACTIONS TAKEN

With the change in the local administration in Dumaran, we are hoping to continue the fruitful partnership with the local government unit. Enforcement should be strengthened to prevent mismanagement of forested areas and resources, inside and outside the critical habitat. Kaingin practices should be monitored so that they will not extend inside the DICH especially in the two cockatoo reserves.

Threats to be mitigated by the presence of patrollers include increased forest encroachment, including the creation and widening of logging trails, as well as timber poaching of standing trees outside CH that may span inside.

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