



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
**PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**  
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro



AUG 10 2022

## MEMORANDUM

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

**THRU** : The ARD for Technical Services

**FROM** : The OIC, PENR Officer

**SUBJECT** : **COMPLETED STAFF WORK (CSW) REPORT FOR  
THE ALLEGED SIGHTING AND NESTING SITE OF  
CROCODILE (*Crocodilus spp*) AT STA. CRUZ,  
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO**

Forwarded is the memorandum dated August 3, 2022 of CENRO Sablayan regarding Completed Staff Work (CSW) report of CDS Team regarding the alleged sighting and nesting site of crocodile (*Crocodilus spp*) at Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro.

As per verification report and based on the facts and informations gathered by the personnel of CENRO Sablayan, the probability of presence of crocodile is very low considering the hole of Buri Palm which the nesting area could not fit with the size of the matured crocodile in laying eggs. Thereby concluded that the eggshells that have been collected maybe attributed by Reticulated Python (*Malayophyton reticulatus*) and not crocodile (*Crocodilus spp*).

Attached with the report is the geotagged pictures taken during the site verification and GIS generated map.

For information and record.

  
**ERNESTO E. TAÑADA**

TSD-CDS8/8/2022

So. Pag-asa, Brgy. Payompon, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro  
Email:tsdoccmin042@gmail.com



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**

August 3, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The OIC, PENR Officer  
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

**THRU :** The Technical Services Division

**FROM :** The CENR Officer

**SUBJECT :** **COMPLETED STAFF WORK (CSW) REPORT FOR THE ALLEGED SIGHTING AND NESTING SITE OF CROCODILE (*Crocodilus spp*) AT STA CRUZ, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO.**

**RECORDED**  
Date: 8-8-22  
By: 91

Respectfully forwarded is the Completed Staff Work (CSW) report of CDS Team regarding the alleged sighting and nesting site of crocodile (*Crocodilus spp*) at Sta Cruz, Occidental Mindoro.

Upon verification and based on the facts and informations gathered by the team, the probability of presence of crocodile (*Crocodilus spp*) is very low considering the hole of Buri Palm which the nesting area could not fit with the size of the matured crocodile in laying eggs. Thereby concluded that the eggshells that have been collected maybe attributed by Reticulated Python (*Malayophyton reticulatus*) and not of crocodile (*Crocodilus spp*).

For your information and further evaluation,

  
FOR. ANASTACIO A. SANTOS MPA

<b>CDS</b>	
RECEIVED BY:	<u>pe</u>
DATE: <u>8/8</u>	TIME: <u>1:00</u>
RELEASED BY:	
DATE:	TIME:

<b>RECORDS</b>	
DATE: <u>8/8</u>	TIME: <u>8:00</u>
DATE:	TIME:

<b>PENRO</b>	
DATE: <u>08-08-22</u>	TIME: <u>09:40</u>

<b>TSD</b>	
DATE: <u>8/8</u>	TIME: <u>1:00</u>



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
MIMAROPA Region  
**COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE**

August 1, 2022

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** : The CENR Officer

**THRU** : The Deputy CENR Officer

**FROM** : The Chief, Conservation and Development Section  
The Forest Technician II  
The Park Maintenance Foreman  
The Forest Technician I

**SUBJECT** : **COMPLETED STAFF WORK (CSW) REPORT FOR THE ALLEGED SIGHTING AND NESTING SITE OF CROCODILE (*Crocodilus spp.*) AT STA. CRUZ, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO**

**RECORDED**  
Date: 8-1-22  
By: AN

**I. REFERENCE**

This has reference to a phone call received last July 27, 2022 from Mr. Reynante Laurena of the Office of the Municipal Agriculturist regarding the abovementioned subject.

**II. BACKGROUND**

On July 27, 2022, a phone call was received by this office thru Forester April Amores from Mr. Reynante Laurena of the office of the Municipal Agriculturist of Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro. Upon the information received and in consideration that this involves an alleged sighting and nesting site of crocodile in the area. Personnel from the Conservation and Development Section (CDS) urgently proceeded to the site considering that the area of concern is crocodiles. The team is composed of Forester Alvin E. Sanico, FT II Jeremy Russel A. Saracanlao, PMF Ferdinand B. Magno and FT I Marlon C. Cortez.

During the field validation, the undersigned personnel from CENRO Sablayan met Mr. Reynante Laurena wherein he showed us fourteen (14) out of the twenty-one (21) alleged eggshells of crocodiles found. With only the basic information available given by Mr. Reynante Laurena the team proceeded to the Barangay Hall of Brgy. Mulawin for an interview for some of the officials as it was stated that the person who found the eggs is a resident of the said Barangay. With the same result the team headed to So. Purbis, Brgy. Mulawin, Sta. Cruz to interview Mr. Wildy Bugtong the person who saw the said eggshells.

During the interview Mr. Wildy Bugtong confirmed that he is the person who saw the said eggshells in his farm and that his friend who is working at the Municipal Disaster



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Risk Reduction Management Office (MDRRMO) is the one who turned over the eggshells to the personnel of Municipal Agriculturist for their information and possible identification.

Also, during the interview Mr. Bugtong confirmed that sometime 2 years ago while they are hauling their harvested crops an unidentified animal was observed in the area at the makeshift bridge which they are using in the area. As per his recollection, the animal observed has a long snout and the whole-body feature was not identified since it was submerged in the river and some of them have thrown stones in the unidentified creature but has stated the possibility that it is a crocodile.

After the interview, the team together with Mr. Bugtong, Mr. Laurena and the CENRO CDS team conducted a site visit on the area where the eggshells are found. It was observed that the eggshells were found within the felled Buli tree (*Corypha spp.*). During the site visit and interview it was also observed that the area was a former shed for goats which Mr. Bugtong said that one of the reasons why they stop pasturing goats in the area is because of the sudden death of some of their farm animals. (See photos attached)

The CENRO personnel acted in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) Technical Bulletin No. 2020-02 or the Protocol for Managing Human-Crocodile Conflict (HCC) in the Philippines.

It is also notable to put in observation that the site is maybe favorable as a habitat of crocodiles as the area is within the mangrove site connecting to the estuary along the municipal market. Some of the eggshells were then measured for reference and for identification. (Please see photos attached).

The result of the ground validation/ site visit conducted it is fair to conclude that the eggshells recovered in the area are not of crocodile (*Crocodylus spp.*) this in consideration of the location of the nesting area that given the size of the crocodile cannot fit within the said tree for nesting.

#### **COMMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS**

Based on the facts and information gathered, there is a lower probability of presence of crocodile (*Crocodylus spp.*), since the livelihood activities of the locals are frequent on the said area. Therefore, there is a higher chance for sighting/ encounter of the said species.

In conclusion, the team hereby recommends that the eggshells that have been collected are of Reticulated python (*Malayopython reticulatus*) and not of crocodile (*Crocodylus spp.*). It is also recommended that a Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Campaign be conducted within and adjacent to the coastal and Mangrove areas.



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**III. ATTACHMENTS**

- Geo-tagged photos
- GIS generated map

For your information, evaluation and record.

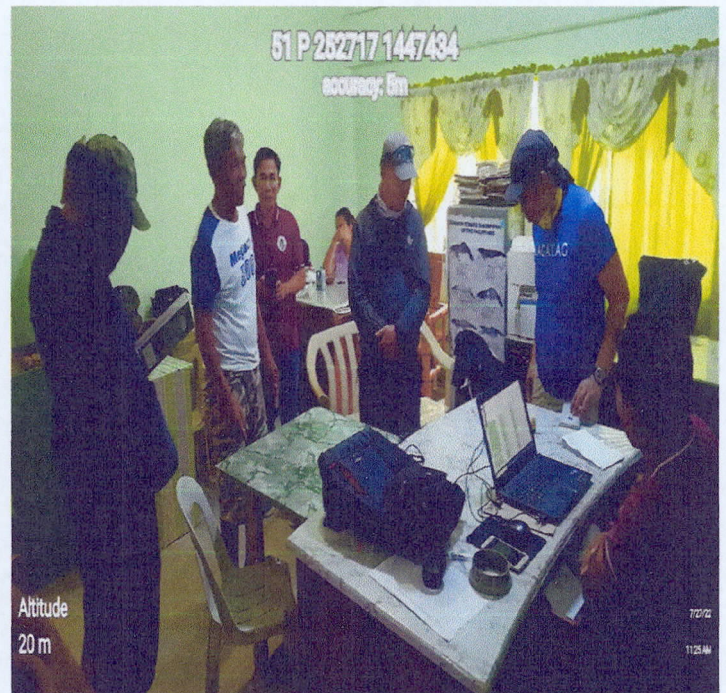
  
**ALVIN E. SANICO**

  
**JEREMY RUSSEL A. SARACANLAO**

  
**FERDINAND B. MAGNO**

  
**MARLON C. CORTEZ**

## PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Courtesy and short briefing with Mayor Ernesto P. Torreliza of LGU Sta. Cruz (L), and with Mr. Reynante Laurena from the MAOs Office (R)



Courtesy with BLGU of Brgy. Mulawin



Interview with Mr. Wildy Bugtong at So. Purbis, Brgy. Mulawin, Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro

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# PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Alleged Nesting site



Panoramic view of the alleged nesting site

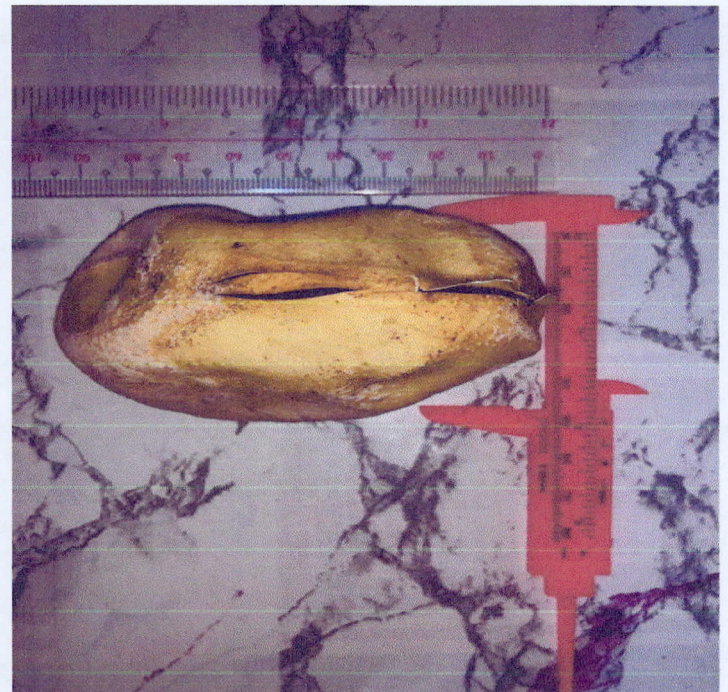
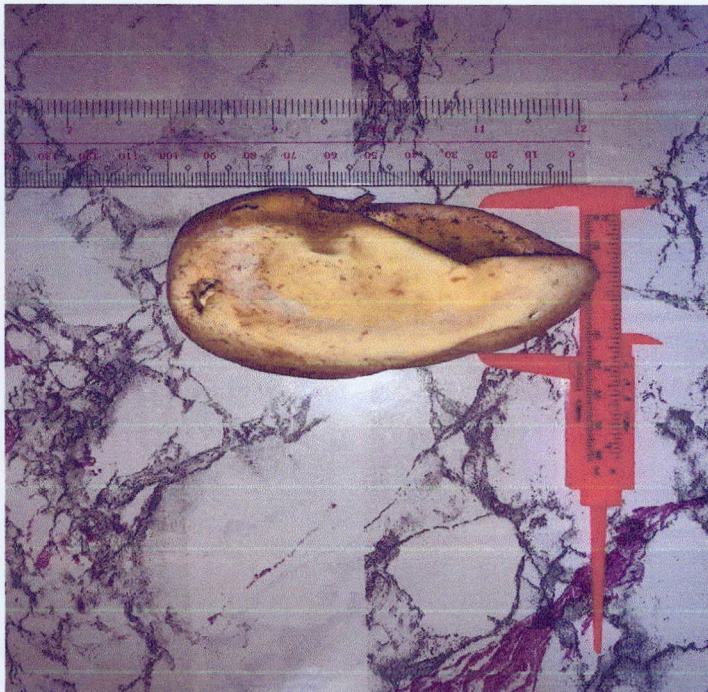
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PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Turned over eggshells (L), Goat bone fragments observed in the area (R)



Photos showing the alleged crocodile eggs being measured for reference

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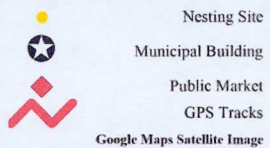
120°43'12.00" E

120°43'30.00" E

120°43'48.00" E



### LEGEND



NOTE: The herein described area was surveyed thru GPS instrument under 1/- 3m accuracy.

120°43'12.00" E

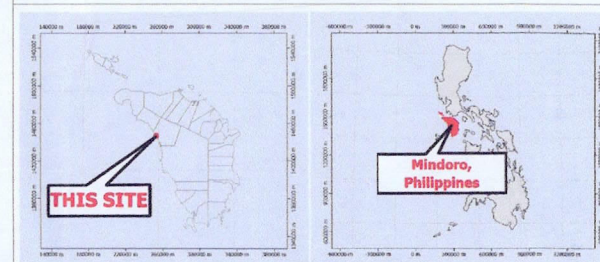
120°43'30.00" E

120°43'48.00" E

## SKETCH MAP OF THE AREA OF THE ALLEGED CROCODILE NESTING SITE

LOCATED AT:

SITIO : FORBIS  
BARANGAY : MULAWIN  
MUNICIPALITY : STA. CRUZ  
PROVINCE : OCCIDENTAL MINDORO



### LOCATION MAP



**SCALE : 1:8000**

Datum : World Geodetic 1984 (WGS84)  
Coordinate System : Universal Transverse Mercator - Zone 51 (N)



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
MIMAROPA Region IV-B  
COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE  
Brgy. Sto. Niño, Sablayan, Occidental Mindoro

### CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that this is the correct map through GPS survey of the area of the Alleged Crocodile Nesting Site located at So. Forbis, Brgy. Mulawin, Sta. Cruz, Occidental Mindoro as described herein.

This map was prepared based from the submitted compilation sketch and other references available in the office.

Prepared by:

DENNISE FERATERO  
FT-I GIS Operator

Checked by:

ALVIN E. SANICO  
Forester II, Chief, CDS