



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

MIMAROPA Region

Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

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DENR MIMAROPA - RECORDS SECTION
01 DEC 2022
INCOMING
BY: NMT
DATE NO.

December 01, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA
1515 DENR By the Bay Building, Roxas Blvd.
Barangay 668, Ermita, Manila

THRU : The OIC, ARD for Technical Services

FROM : The Provincial Environment and
Natural Resources Officer

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE GREEN FINS ON-BOARD ASSESSMENT
FOR UMI TRAVEL AND TOURS**

Forwarded is the memorandum dated November 21, 2022 of CENRO Taytay along with the report on the green fins on-board assessment for UMI Travel and Tour that serves as **Means of Verification (MOV)** to the target activity under Management of Coastal and Marine Resources/Areas – Green Fins Implementation – conduct of assessment of dive/snorkel operators.

Please be informed that on October 20, 2022, the Green Fins Assessors conducted on-board assessment of Umi Travel and Tours. Accordingly, the said travel and tours garnered a score of 202 on the assessment. The assessors conducted a feedbacking session and discussed with the owners/managers the three (3) action points for improvements to help them achieve much lower scores in the future. Further, Green Fins IEC material and shirt were given to the tour operators during the feedbacking session as part of the promotion for adapting Green Fins Approach for snorkeling industry.

Attached is the assessment report and photo documentation.

For information and record.



FELIZARDO B. CAYATOC

DENR-PALAWAN
PENRO-RECORDS
RELEASED
By: [signature]
Date: 17 DEC 2022 CN 12-3138



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE

By the National Highway, Poblacion, Taytay, Palawan 5312

Mobile: 0926-505-9335 TM 0912-171-3889 TNT

Email: cenrotaytay@denr.gov.ph

RECEIVED

November 21, 2022

MEMORANDUM

BY: [Signature]
DATE: 11-24-2022 CN 22-10833

FOR : The Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer- Palawan
Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

FROM : The Community Environment and Natural Resources Officer
This jurisdiction

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE GREEN FINS ON-BOARD ASSESSMENT
FOR UMI TRAVEL AND TOUR**

Respectfully forwarded is the memorandum dated November 7, 2022 of Protected Area Superintendent (PASu) Mildred A. Suza being an accomplishment and as **Means of Verification (MoV)** on the target activity on the Green Fins Implementation of El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area (ENTMRPA), El Nido, Palawan.

Please confirm the receipt hereof. Thank you.

For and in the absence of the CENRO:

[Signature]
MARIANO P. LILANG, JR.
Development Management Officer IV
Per DAO-2022-09, page 3

Cc: PAMO-ENTMRPA

**DENR CENRO
TAYTAY, PALAWAN
RELEASED**

BY: [Signature]
DATE: NOV 21 2022 CN 3412



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

November 7, 2022

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM : The Protected Area Superintendent
El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE CONDUCTED GREEN FINS ON-BOARD ASSESSMENT OF UMI TR AVEL AND TOUR**

**DENR CENRO
TAYTAY, PALAWAN
RECEIVED**
BY: *[Signature]*
DATE: 11.18.22 CH 6743

Respectfully forwarded is the report from the Green Fins Assessor dated October 21, 2022 in line with the target 001 Green Fins Implementation of Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of this office.

In the report, the UMI Travel and Tours garnered a score of 202 which represents the environmental impact of the travel and tours in the marine environment. The score range from 0-330 with lower score representing lower impacts. The score was presented and discussed with the owner/manager and the three action points for improvements recommended by the assessors was agreed for implementation by the operator/manager.

Further, Green Fins IEC and shirt were given to the tour operators during the feedbacking session as part of promotion for adapting Green Fins Approach for snorkeling industry.

This serves as Means of Verification.

For information and record.

[Signature]
MILDRED A. SUZA
①

**DENR - PAO
ENTMRPA,
El Nido, Palawan**
RELEASED
By: *[Signature]*
Date: 11-18-22
C.N.: 1088



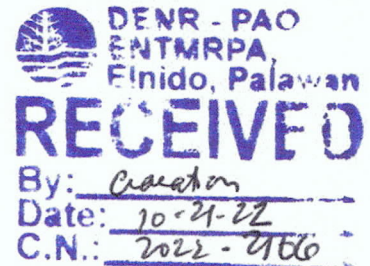
October 21, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Protected Area Superintendent
El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area
El Nido, Palawan

FROM : Green Fins Assessor

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE CONDUCTED GREEN FINS ON-BOARD
ASSESSMENT OF UMI TRAVEL AND TOURS**



This pertains to our target activity on the conduct of assessment of dive/snorkel operators (monitors the performance/compliance of dive centers/resort owners to GF) for El Nido-Taytay Managed Resource Protected Area (ENTMRPA), El Nido, Palawan. Please be informed that this Office conducted Green Fins on-board assessment of Umi Travel and Tours on October 20, 2022.

The assessor used the guidelines of the Green Fins to rate the tour operators on their behaviors during the island hopping and snorkeling tour. All observation were listed and assessed including the materials and facilities within the boat.

Based on the assessment, **UMI** travel and tours garnered a score of 202. The said score represents the environmental impact of the travel and tours in the marine environment. The score range from 0-330 with lower score representing lower impacts. The said score was discussed with the owner/managers and three action points for improvements recommended by the assessors and been agreed for implementation by the owner/manager.

Green Fins IEC material and shirt were given to the tour operators during the feed backing session as part of promotion for adapting Green Fins Approach for snorkeling industry.

Attached is the assessment report and photo documentation.

For information and record.


PRECY M. OBRIQUE

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION



Photo during the on-board assessment dated October 20, 2022.



Photo during the feed backing session dated October 20, 2022.

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Green Fins Membership Form

MISSION STATEMENT

"To protect and conserve coral reefs by establishing and implementing environmentally friendly guidelines to promote a sustainable diving and snorkelling tourism industry."

- 1) Adopt the Green Fins mission statement
- 2) Display the adopted Green Fins agreement for the public to see
- 3) Adhere to the Green Fins Friendly Diving and Snorkelling Guidelines and act as a responsible role model for guests
- 4) Participate in regular underwater cleanups at dive operator selected sites
- 5) Participate in the development and implementation of a mooring buoy program and actively use moorings, drift or hand place anchors for boats
- 6) Prohibit the sales of corals and other marine life at the dive operation
- 7) Participate in regular coral reef monitoring and report coral reef monitoring data to a regional coral reef database
- 8) Provide adequate garbage facilities on board facility's vessel and deal with responsibly
- 9) Operate under a 'minimum discharge' policy
- 10) Abide by all local, regional, national and international environmental laws, regulations and customs
- 11) Provide guests with an explanation of Green Fins Friendly Diving and Snorkelling Guidelines in pre dive briefings
- 12) Provide training, briefing or literature for employees and guests regarding good environmental practices for snorkeling, diving, boating, marine wildlife interaction and other marine recreational activities
- 13) Provide staff and guests with public awareness and environmental materials (ID books, pamphlets etc)
- 14) Provide guests with information on local Marine Protected Areas, environmental rules and regulations
- 15) Promote a strict 'No Touch' policy for all reef diving and snorkelling.

"I agree to abide by the Green Fins Code of Conduct and understand that my company will allow trained Green Fins Assessors onboard to carry out environmental assessments. I realise that a failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in a warning being given and after several warnings it may lead to my removal from the scheme."

NAME <u>SHEEN IRENE COVENDRES</u>	COMPANY <u>UMI TRAVEL & TOURS /</u>
<u>MBCA UMI TRAVEL & TOURS 3 & MBCA UMI TRAVEL & TOURS 1</u>	
SIGNATURE <u>[Signature]</u>	DATE <u>10/2/21</u>
EMAIL <u>umitravelandtours@yahoo.com.ph</u>	TEL NO. <u>0999 713 4480</u>
ADDRESS <u>Hama Street, Brgy. Masigara Zone 3, Al Nida</u>	
NAME AND TYPE OF BOATS: <u>TOURIST BOATS (MBCA UMI TRAVEL & TOURS 3 /</u>	
<u>MBCA UMI TRAVEL & TOURS 1)</u>	

Adapted from The Coral Reef Alliance (CORAL) "Environmentally Friendly Standards for Dive Operations"
An initiative of the United Nations Environmental Programme and supported by The Reef-World Foundation

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Umi Travel and Tours IV-B, El Nido, Palawan, Philippines



Assessment Date: 20/10/2022

Assessor: Precy Obrique

Boat: Umi 1

Staff on board: Mar John (Boat Captain), Marvin (Assistant Boat Captain) Jun (Cook), Dennis and Calvin (Tour Guides)

Dive Site: Tour A (Big Lagoon, Secret Lagoon, Shimizu Island, Twin rocks and Seven Commando)

Summary

Umi Travel and Tours is a new member of Green Fins in 2022. They previously attended the GF IEC/Training last September 28, 2021. The owner, Ms. Sheen Irene Colendres was very cooperative and quickly organised the assessment and awareness raising presentation after signing the membership form.

We joined in Tour A island hopping tour with 11 tourists. All staff was very cooperative in answering our question/queries. They are visibly interested in learning on how they can protect the environment as they said that protecting the environment means protecting their livelihood.

COC #	Rating	Description
1	GREEN	- The owner and their tour organizer are very cooperative on the conduct of onboard assessment.
2	RED	- No COC guidelines, GF certificate, or icons visible in their office and boats because they are a newly recruited member of GF but Ian (tour guide) wear the Green Fins shirt during the tour.
3	YELLOW	- All Staff follow majority of the GF Icons. - Staff acts as responsible role models during the tour but did not always correct the guest bad behaviour.
4	RED	- They don't participate in one of clean ups tis past years.
5a 5b	RED YELLOW	- They don't participate in the mooring buoys installation programs. - They anchor when there is no mooring buoy within the area but actively use buoys if there are. - Not all destinations have mooring buoys (only in Big lagoon and Twin Rocks)
6	GREEN	- No marine products such as sea shells, corals, clams and etc. use as display in their office instead they use recycled materials like papers and plastics as decorate.
7a 7b	RED RED	- No monitoring of coral reefs conducted - No record of monitoring found
8	RED	- Three trash bins with lid were found inside the boat being stacked but only 1 Trash bin without lid were used and did not observed separating of rubbish. - No stray is present but not adequate - Uses re-useable containers like plates and utensils for lunch
9	RED	- Chemical dish washing liquid found in the boat. - Unintentional fish feeding observed during the washing of plates within the boat. - Food scraps were placed in an empty container and removed from the boat. - Cleaning of dishes was done in the boat result to unintentional fish feeding. - Uses 4 stroke/ diesel engines - Verbal assurance that their used oil is surrendered to the Philippine Coast Guard but as of this year, the used oil was brought to their farm for other uses. - Batteries used are rechargeable

10	YELLOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - They did not break laws. - Staffs know that the area is a protected area. When asked, they have some knowledge on most of the prohibited acts within the PA.
11	GREEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Guide provided briefing with five environmental content (No collection of shells, sand, stone, and corals, No chasing/touching of wildlife, Always wear life vest and No stepping on the corals)
12	YELLOW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staffs undergo eco-tour guiding training and Green Fins IEC/Training. - The staff confirmed that the company does not provide or offer environmental educational courses.
13	RED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No environmental materials found and/or being offer to guests.
14	RED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The guides and the boat staff provided information on the local MPAs in El Nido after being questioned. - They did not mention during the briefing of tourist about the MPAs and El Nido as a Protected Area - El Nido is a protected area.
15	GREEN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No contact with marine life or stepping on the corals witnessed. - No fins and gloves provided to avoid destruction and touching of corals and other marine organisms. - The tour guides always reminded the tourist to wear their life vest most especially if they are not comfortable to water/swimming.

THREE ACTION POINTS FOR IMPROVEMENT	
	Description
1	Avoid using Chemical dishwashing liquid or use organic dishwashing liquid (Messy Bessy) or just simply bring back all used dishes and other utensils to their office to avoid washing it in the sea.
2	Provide 2 Trash bins and ashtray on board.
3	Display Green Fins IEC materials to their shop and to the boat and used it during the briefing of the guest.
Back up 1	
Back up 2	

Score: 202

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Umi Travel and Tours
El Nido, Palawan

Dear Ms. Sheen Irene Colendres and the Umi travel and tour team,

Welcome to Green Fins! We are pleased to have you join the growing network of dive and snorkel operators that are protecting our reefs. As you know, being a Green fins member means you go through an annual assessment and training session to help you improve your environmental standards.

This year, we conducted your first assessment on October 20, 2022- we snorkelled and island hopped with Mar John (Boat Captain), Marvin (Asst. Boat Captain) Jun (Cook), Dennis and Calvin (Tour Guides) and 11 guest at Big Lagoon, Secret Lagoon, Twin rocks, Shimizu Island and Seven Commando Beach. We are impressed with the excellent role model behaviour displayed by the staff. It is inspiring to see that the staff encouraged the guest to follow all rules related to environmental guidelines while on the tour.

After each assessment, you are allocated a score which represents the environmental impact of your agency. The score range from 0-330 with lower score representing lower impacts. This year, your score is 202. As discussed with you during the feedback session, this high score (high impact) even for a new member. However, the assessment process has shown that correcting a few small points can drastically reduce your score for next year.

We discussed and agreed that you would take the following actions before your next assessment:

1. **Use the Green Fins Icons and materials during the Briefing of the tourist and Display it on their shop.**
The Green Fins Icons and IEC materials will greatly help the tour guides and crew to promote the environmental awareness to the tourist. Following the said set of icons will help minimize impacts of the tourist and the boat to the marine environment.
2. **Place atleast 2 trash bin with lid (for proper segregation) and ashtrays**
Placing two trash bin with lid will greatly help no only on the awareness of the tourist on the proper segregation of trash but also to prevent the trash from getting back to the sea. Ashtray on the on other hand will help minimizing or avoiding the ash from the cigarette get back to the sea. With the simple act like these, you are minimizing the tourist impacts to the marine environment but also in protection and conservation of the area.
3. **Avoid using Chemical dishwashing liquid or use organic dishwashing liquid (Messy Bessy)**
Chemical dish washing liquid when goes to the sea will greatly affect the marine organism more especially coral reef.

Protecting the environment also means protection our business. Thank you again for your cooperation and dedication to the environment. If you have any questions about any of the above points, please do not hesitate to contact us. It is fantastic to have you on board with Green Fins and we look forward to working with you again next year.

With kind regards,

Precy
Green Fins Assessor