

June 20, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA

THRU : The OIC, ARD for Technical Services

FROM : The In-Charge, Office of the PENRO
Oriental Mindoro

SUBJECT : **SUBMISSION OF REPORT OF CENRO SOCORRO ON THE
MONITORING OF MARINE TURTLE NESTING SITES IN
POLA, ORIENTAL MINDORO FOR THE SECOND QUARTER
OF CY 2022**

Submitted is the report of CENRO Socorro on the monitoring of marine turtle nesting sites in Barangays Tagumpay and Misong, both located in Pola, Oriental Mindoro.

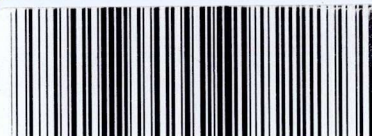
Based on the report, the CENRO personnel conducted monitoring of nesting sites in Barangay Tagumpay on June 10, 2022 in coordination with the barangay LGU. Some threats in the marine sites were identified which include coastal soil erosion, shoreline commercialization and development and improper waste disposal. These issues were coordinated with the concerned LGUs for the maintenance and protection of nearby Marine Protected Area.

Further, within the adjacent barangay, Barangay Misong, about 93 marine turtles were emerged and immediately released within the area with the assistance of the bantay dagat present in said barangay. In addition, the personnel of CENRO distributed IEC materials on the proper management of coastal and marine resources.

For information and reference.

Tracking No2206000444
PENRO/CDS


ALMA E. GIBE



DENRPENRO2206000041



June 14, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director

THRU : The PENR Officer

FROM : The CENR Officer

SUBJECT : SUBMISSION OF REPORT ON THE MONITORING OF MARINE TURTLE NESTING SITE IN BARANGAY TAGUMPAY, POLA, ORIENTAL MINDORO



Respectfully submitting the report on the monitoring of marine turtle nesting site in Barangay Tagumpay, Pola, Oriental Mindoro. The monitoring is part of the regular target for *Protection and Conservation of Wildlife: Conservation of Threatened Species under Wildlife Resources Conservation Sub-Program* for CY 2022.

The team monitored the shoreline of Barangay Tagumpay on June 10, 2022 with approximately 368 m of distance patrolled. The location site is a predominant white sand beach with some coral rubbles and sea shells. The vegetation is composed mainly of Talisay (*Terminalia catappa*) and Coconut (*Cocos nucifera*). About two (2) ephemeral stream with Nipa (*Nypa fruticans*) and Mangroves (*Rhizophora sp.*) are draining in the beach.

The threats observed during the monitoring include erosion (soil and coastal), coastal development, commercialization and improper solid waste disposal. Despite the threats, the Local Government Unit (LGU) has conservation and protection initiatives such as the establishment and maintenance of Marine Protected Area (MPA); mobilization of *Bantay Dagat*; and closed coordination with other concerned offices.

The team also interviewed key informants from the Barangay LGU. Ms. Vilma Pedragao, a Barangay Health Worker, confirmed sightings of marine turtles within their area. The last encounter was last May. Unfortunately, the species failed to nest and abandoned the area because of unsuitable site condition.

Meanwhile, Mr. Rico Mendez, a *Bantay Dagat* from Municipal Agriculturist's Office, also affirmed the presence of marine turtles. Likewise, he shared their regular patrolling activities and their assistance to the release of marine turtle hatchlings last year in the adjacent Barangay Misong, Pola. During the said event, about 93 marine turtles emerged and released, while five (5) of which were dead and disposed.

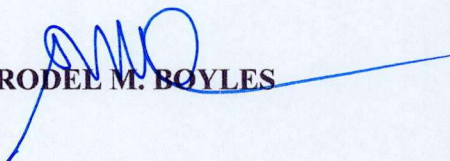


The barangay is absolutely a marine turtle nesting site. In this regard, the team requested the Barangay LGU to coordinate with the DENR-CENRO Socorro for possible nesting, emergence of hatchlings, stranding, injured, death and/ or poaching incidence with regards to marine turtles. The contact number and e-mail address of the Office were provided through letter dated June 08, 2022 for their reference. The information provided will serve as basis for the formulation and/ or implementation of programs/ activities/ projects with regards to the conservation, management and protection of marine turtles in the province.

Additionally, a total of 30 Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign materials regarding marine turtles, birds, forests, Marine Protected Area (MPA) and Biodiversity-Friendly Enterprise (BDFE) were given to MENRO, MPDO and Barangay LGU to serve as basis in conservation, monitoring and enforcement activities. The barangay greatly appreciated and expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the IEC materials as these will help in their IEC and management of coastal and marine resources.

Attached are the geo-tagged photos, communication letter and map of the report.

For information and record.


RODEL M. BOYLES



June 14, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The CENR Officer

THRU : The DMO IV
The Forester III/ Chief, CDS

FROM : The Undersigned

SUBJECT : **REPORT ON THE MONITORING OF MARINE TURTLE
NESTING SITE IN BARANGAY TAGUMPAY, POLA,
ORIENTAL MINDORO**

Respectfully submitting herewith the report on the monitoring of marine turtle nesting site in Barangay Tagumpay, Pola, Oriental Mindoro. The monitoring was held in June 10, 2022. The monitoring is part of the regular target for *Protection and Conservation of Wildlife: Conservation of Threatened Species* under *Wildlife Resources Conservation Sub-Program* for CY 2022.

The team monitored the shoreline of Barangay Tagumpay on June 10, 2022 with approximately 368 m of distance patrolled. The location site is a predominant white sand beach with some coral rubbles and sea shells. The vegetation is composed mainly of Talisay (*Terminalia catappa*) and Coconut (*Cocos nucifera*). About two (2) ephemeral stream with Nipa (*Nypa fruticans*) and Mangroves (*Rhizophora sp.*) are draining in the beach.

The threats observed during the monitoring include erosion, coastal development, commercialization and improper solid waste disposal. Soil and coastal erosion were noted because some parts of the road of the barangay is excavated and there are presence of exposed root system of trees near the water. Cottages were also constructed with on-going tourism activities. Likewise, solid waste were seen in the inconspicuous area of the beach. In the said threats, anthropogenic factors can be managed and controlled.

Despite the threats, the LGU has conservation and protection initiatives such as the establishment and maintenance of their Marine Protected Area (MPA); mobilization of *Bantay Dagat*; and closed coordination with other concerned offices.

The undersigned also interviewed key informants from the Barangay LGU. The 1st respondent is Ms. Vilma Pedragao, a Barangay Health Worker. Ms. Pedragao cited that her *Bantay Dagat* brother-in-law, Mr. Ricky Sapungan, encountered a mature marine turtle last May around 7:00 pm. The species reached the court in search for suitable nesting site. The area is approximately 10 meters away from the shore. The marine turtle then retreated as the area is cemented.



The species tried to nest near the waterline where sand exist, but the shallow root system of Talisay trees prevented it to do so. With the unsuitable site condition and nearness to the sea water, the marine turtle withdrawn and departed back to water to nest to other area.

Aside from that, Ms. Pedragao shared that she and her *Bantay Dagat* husband, Mr. Robert Sapungan, have multiple sightings of marine turtles as well as dolphins swimming within their municipal waters. Their recent encounter was also last month.

The 2nd respondent for the interview was Mr. Rico Mendez, a *Bantay Dagat* from Municipal Agriculturist's Office. He annotated that his fellow *Bantay Dagat* regularly conducted patrolling at night to protect the MPA against perpetrators. They also assist in the operations of nearby barangay. Last year, they facilitated the release of 93 marine turtle hatchlings in the adjacent Barangay Misong, Pola in coordination with the Municipal Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Office (MDRRMO) and Provincial Agriculturist's Office (PAgO). Meanwhile, five (5) of which are dead.

The barangay is absolutely a marine turtle nesting site. In this regard, the team requested the Barangay LGU to coordinate with the DENR-CENRO Socorro for possible nesting, emergence of hatchlings, stranding, injured, death and/ or poaching incidence with regards to marine turtles. The DENR through Executive Order No. 192 series of 1987 is mandated to be the primary agency responsible for conservation, management and protection of said animals. Further, the Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, has designated the department to have jurisdiction over the aforementioned endangered species.

The contact number and e-mail address of the Office were provided through letter dated June 08, 2022 for their reference. The information provided will serve as basis for the formulation and/ or implementation of programs/ activities/ projects with regards to the conservation, management and protection of marine turtles in the province.

Additionally, a total of 30 Information, Education and Communication (IEC) campaign materials regarding marine turtles, birds, forests, MPA and Biodiversity-Friendly Enterprise (BDFE) were given to MENRO, MPDO and Barangay LGU to serve as reference in conservation, monitoring and enforcement activities. The barangay greatly appreciated and expressed their heartfelt gratitude for the IEC materials as these will help in their IEC and management of coastal and marine resources.

Attached are the geo-tagged photos, communication letter and map of the report.

For information and record.

ADRIAN V. CATUD
Forest Technician I

CHARITY A. LINATOC
Forest Technician II

MACKALEY P. MARTINEZ
Forester I

Barangay Pasi II, Socorro, Oriental Mindoro
Tel. No.: (043) 285 - 7068
Email: cenrosocorro@denr.gov.ph



Figure 1. Courtesy call and distribution of IEC campaign materials to the MENRO and MPDC.

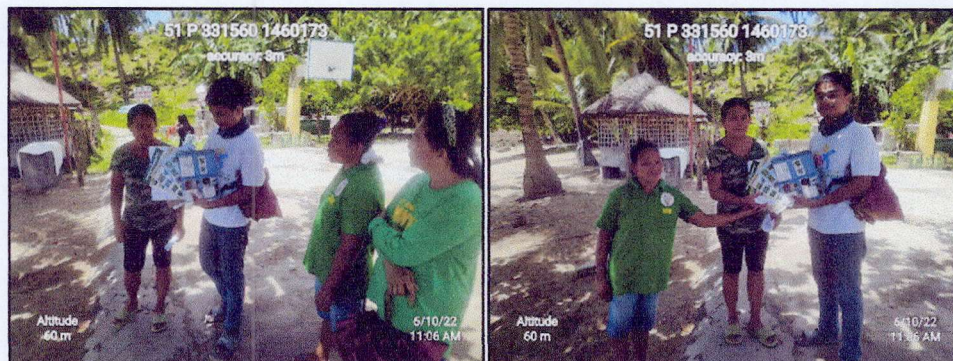


Figure 2. Courtesy call and distribution of IEC campaign materials to the LGU of Barangay Tagumpay, Pola, Oriental Mindoro.



Figure 3. Threats observed: Presence of garbage.

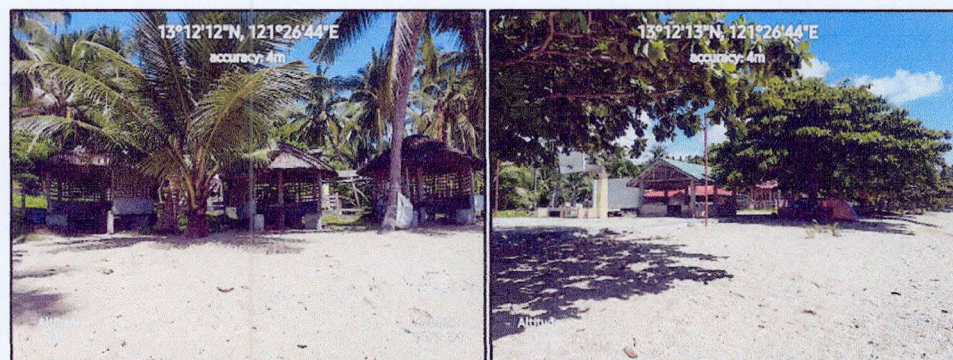


Figure 4. Threats observed: Coastal development and commercialization.

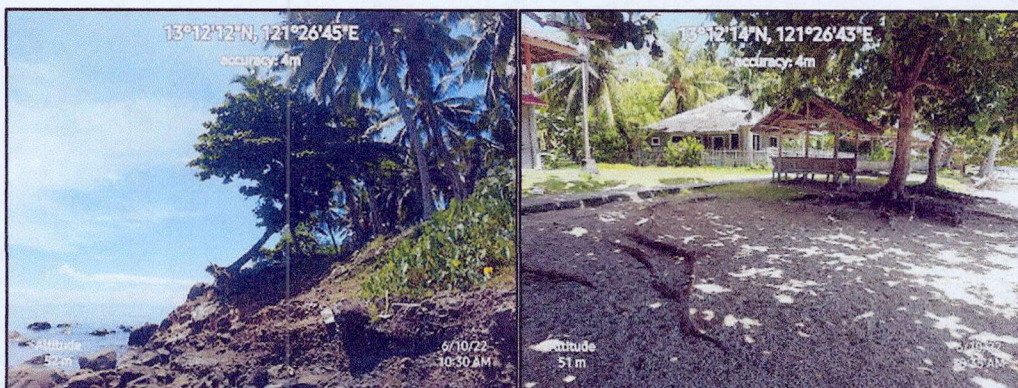


Figure 5. Threats observed: Soil and coastal erosion.



Figure 6. Monitoring of marine turtle nesting site.



June 08, 2022

HON. REXON P. MOLINA

Barangay Chairperson
Barangay Tagumpay, Pola, Oriental Mindoro

Dear Hon. Molina:

Greetings of peace!

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) through Executive Order No. 192 series of 1987 is mandated to be the primary agency responsible for the conservation, management, development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources. Further, the Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act of 2001, has designated the DENR to have jurisdiction over all terrestrial plant and animal species, all turtles and tortoises and wetland species, including but not limited to crocodiles, waterbirds and all amphibians and dugong.

Marine turtles are one of the threatened species prioritized for conservation and protection. For this year, the DENR through the Community Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) Socorro, Oriental Mindoro is currently conducting an inventory and updating of marine turtle nesting sites within our area of responsibility. Based on our records, Barangay Tagumpay is identified as a marine turtle nesting site. This is due to the relative location of Barangay which is within the biodiversity-rich Verde Island Passage (VIP).

Anent hereto, we humbly request for your assistance on June 10, 2022 to conduct monitoring of marine turtle nesting site within your area of jurisdiction. Further, we respectfully request for your coordination and/ or report to this Office any nesting, emergence of hatchlings, stranding, injured, death and/ or poaching incidence with regards to the said endangered species.

The information provided will serve as basis for the formulation and/ or implementation of programs/ activities/ projects with regards to the conservation, management and protection of marine turtles in the province.

Should you have concerns, queries and/ or clarification, you may reach the CENRO Socorro through our Coastal and Wildlife Focal, **Forester I Mackale P. Martinez** through this phone number: **+639102199969** or email at **cenrosocorro@denr.gov.ph**.

We are looking forward for your warm response and whole-hearted support regarding the matter.

Thank you so much.

For and in the absence of the CENR Officer:

[Signature]
Kogime B. Mender
CENRO Socorro - CDS and APMSS (Mackaley)

Kogime B. Mender
June 10-22

Barangay Pasi II, Socorro, Oriental Mindoro
Tel. No.: (043) 285 - 7068
Email: cenrosocorro@denr.gov.ph

[Signature]
LEO G. XAPON
DMO IV/ In-Charge, Office of the CENRO



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





**MONITORING OF MARINE TURTLE NESTING
SITE IN BARANGAY TAGUMPAY, POLA,
ORIENTAL MINDORO**



SCALE 1: 3,000

PROJECTION: WGS 1984 UTM Zone 51 N

LEGEND:

-  Marine Turtle Nesting Site
-  Marine Turtle Nesting Site (Attempted)
-  Patrol Route (368 m)
-  Municipal Boundary

DISCLAIMER: Map is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Administrative and political boundaries shown herein does not define authority, and for reference purposes only.

REFERENCE: Google Earth, National Mapping and Resource Information Authority and DENR-CENRO Socorro, Oriental Mindoro

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

Mackalex P. Martinez
MACKALEX P. MARTINEZ
Forester I

Emilia G. Aguilon
EMILIA G. AGUILON
Forester III/ Chief, CDS

Attested by:

Rodel M. Boyles
RODEL M. BOYLES
CENR Officer



Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

