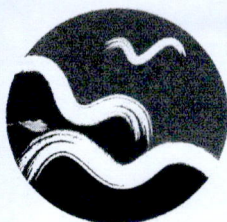


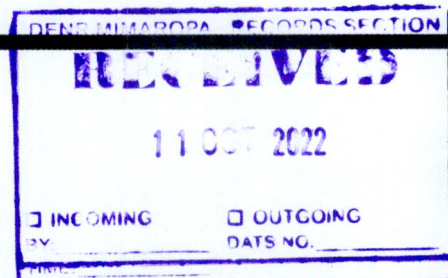
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OCT 03 2022



MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Directors
DENR Regions 1 to 13, CAR and NCR

FROM : The OIC Director

SUBJECT : **VALIDATION OF THE METT SCORES FROM THE PROTECTED AREA
MANAGEMENT EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT REPORTS TO BE
HELD ON OCTOBER TO DECEMBER 2022**

Pursuant to Sections 27 and 11-A (I) of NIPAS Act, as amended, and BMB TB No. 2018-05, please be informed that the Bureau with the technical assistance from the Sustainable Interventions for Biodiversity, Oceans, and Landscapes (SIBOL) Project will conduct validation activity on the METT scores of 61 protected areas under the NIPAS. The 61 priority PAs are the 2012-2017 project sites of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit - Protected Area Management Enhancement (GIZ-PAME) Project that have been analyzed by the project, the results of which were published in 2014 and 2017.

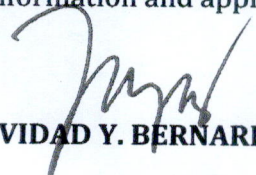
From 2018-2021, around 99 protected areas under the NIPAS conducted management effectiveness assessment using the METT. However, the results of which will have to be validated and analyzed by the Bureau. In view of this, the Bureau with the technical assistance from the SIBOL Project will be conducting a validation of the METT scores which is crucial in the analysis of the MEA Reports. The validation will be conducted on October to December 2022 via face to face and thru online platform via zoom.

In view of the above, may we request that the representatives from the CDD, the PASu, and Staffs from the PAMO be available during the scheduled validation (see attached). May we also request that the latest MEA Report of the 61 PAs and Means of Verification (MOVs) for each METT indicator and sub-indicator be readily available. We are also providing the link where you can drop the latest MEA Report and MOVs. (https://bit.ly/METT_MOVs)

Attached also is the list of the 61 protected areas for reference and the list of MOVs for each METT indicator and sub-indicators that have to be prepared by the Field Offices/PAMO.

The concerned BMB and SIBOL validation team will be coordinating with the CDD and the concerned PAMOs for the details of the field validation

For information and appropriate action.


NATIVIDAD Y. BERNARDINO



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT BUREAU



BMB202204174



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

List of PAs and Tentative Schedule

REGION/PROTECTED AREA	SCHEDULE	Platform
CAR		
Mt. Pulag National Park	December 06	zoom
1		
Kalbario-Patapat Natural Park	November 04	zoom
2		
Casecnan Protected Landscape	November 10-11	zoom
Palaui Island Protected Landscape and Seascape		
Batanes Protected Landscape & Seascape		
Baua-Wangag Watershed Forest Reserve		
3		
Amro River Protected Landscape	October 17-21, 2022	Face to face
Bataan Natural Park		
Dinadiawan River Protected Landscape		
Simbahan-Talagas Protected Landscape		
Talaytay Protected Landscape		
Masinloc and Oyon Bay Marine Reserve		
Aurora Memorial National Park		
4A		
Mts. Banahaw- San Cristobal Protected Landscape	November 16-18	Face to face
Mts. Palay-palay-Mataas-na-Gulod		
Quezon Protected Landscape		
Taal Volcano Protected Landscape		
Alibijaban Island Wilderness Area		
4B		
Marinduque Wildlife Sanctuary	November 9-11	zoom
Mt. Calavite Wildlife Sanctuary		
Mt. Guiting-Guiting Natural Park		
Apo Reef Natural Park		
Mt. Mantalingahan Protected Landscape		
Rasa Island Wildlife Sanctuary		
Calsanag Watershed Forest Reserve		
NCR		
Las Piñas-Parañaque Critical Habitat and Ecotourism Area	October 6	Face to face
5		
Abasig-Matogdon Mananap Natural Biotic Area	October 24-28 (back to back with Monitoring of PA Boundary Demarcation for R5)	Face to face
Bicol Natural Park		
Bulusan Volcano Natural Park		
Catanduanes Natural Park		
Lagonoy Natural Biotic Area		
Mt. Isarog Natural Park		

Caramoan National Park		
6		
Northwest Panay Peninsula Natural Park	October 14&17 (back to back with Monitoring of PA Boundary Demarcation for R6)	Face to face
Panay River Watershed Forest Reserve		
Taklong Island Marine Reserve		
7		
Balinsasayao Twin Lakes Natural Park	October 24-27	Face to face
Camotes Island Protected Landscape and Seascape		
Central Cebu Protected Landscape		
Olango Island Wildlife Sanctuary		
Rajah Sikatuna Protected Landscape		
Panglao Island Protected Seascape		
8		
Samar Island NP	December 01-02	zoom
Biri Larosa Protected Landscape and Seascape		
Cuatro Islas Protected Landscape and Seascape		
Guiuan Marine Resource Protected Landscape and Seascape		
9		
Mt. Timolan Protected Landscape	November 24-25	zoom
Pasonanca Natural Park		
Siocon Resource Reserve		
10		
Mimbilisan Protected Landscape	November 21-23 (back to back with Monitoring of PA Boundary Demarcation)	Face to face
Mt. Balatukan Range Natural Park		
Mt. Inayawan Range Natural Park		
Mt. Malindang Natural Park		
Mt. Timpoong and Hibok-hibok Natural Monument		
Baliangao Protected Landscape and Seascape		
11		
Aliwagwag Protected Landscape	November 08-09	zoom
Mabini Protected Landscape and Seascape		
Pujada Bay Protected Landscape and Seascape		
12		
Mt. Matutum Protected Landscape	November 28-29	zoom
Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape		
Allah Valley Watershed Forest Reserve		
13		
Alamio, Buayan, Carac-an, Panikian River and Sipangpang Falls Watershed Forest Reserve	November 3	zoom

Means of verification for each METT indicator and sub-indicator

Note: Additional MOVs are highlighted green

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
1. Legal status Does the protected area have legal status? CONTEXT	The protected area is not gazetted/covenanted.	0	<i>Refers to state-managed protected areas.</i>	- PASA report to score as 1 - Local ordinances (barangay, municipal, or provincial) - Presidential proclamation - Documentation of public consultation - Republic Act - Ramsar designation - World Heritage designation - Identified as KBA, IBA, AZE, and IPA - ICCA documentation - If PA is not yet gazetted and raised to RA status, the highest possible score is 2 - Once the PA is finally raised to RA status, then the highest score is 3.
	There is agreement that the protected area should be gazetted/covenanted but the process has not yet begun. Key features (e.g. Key Biodiversity Area trigger species) to be protected, identified and agreed upon by local government and/or DENR.	1		
	The protected area is in the process of being gazetted/covenanted but the process is still incomplete (includes sites designated under international conventions, such as Ramsar, or local/traditional law such as community conserved areas, which do not yet have national legal status or covenant). Presidential Proclamation or local (municipal/provincial) ordinance. <i>Note: PAs which have not passed through public consultation can only score a maximum of 2.</i>	2		
	The protected area has been formally gazetted/covenanted. Republic Act.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
2. Protected area regulations Are appropriate regulations in place to control land use and activities (e.g. hunting)? PLANNING	There are no regulations for controlling land use and activities in the protected area. Only laws are those generally applicable throughout the country	0		
	Some regulations for controlling land use and activities in the protected area exist but these are major weaknesses. Regulations specific for the area but these do not address the key threats to PA key features.	1	<i>Refers to the existence of both legal regulations and customary controls</i>	● PAMB resolutions ● Management Plan ● Management zones with clear regulations in place ● Local ordinances (barangay, municipal, or provincial) ● Documents on customary controls ● Include the studies pertaining to the carrying capacity of the PA
	Regulations for controlling land use and activities in the protected area exist but there are some weaknesses or gaps. Regulations specific for the area, and key threats to its key features but are not based upon carrying capacity for extraction & pollution.	2		
	Regulations for controlling inappropriate land use and activities in the protected area exist and provide an excellent basis for management. Regulations specific for the area, and key threats to its key features and based upon carrying capacity (e.g. extraction, pollution, habitat destruction).	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
3. Law enforcement Can staff (i.e. those with responsibility for managing the site) enforce protected area rules well enough? INPUT	The staff has no effective capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations No staff other than PASu, no training, and/or no budget.	0	Details should be provided on the ratings (i.e., perception or fact; if factual, evidence should be provided). Data/figures should be collected (i.e., from WFP for the past 3-5 years) as basis for assessment.	- Organizational structure, presence and number of full time staff with training on enforcement - Work and financial plan - Budget expenditure and allocation for enforcement (includes capdev, equipment, operations) - Enforcement plan (presence/absence, status of implementation, list of stakeholders involved) - Deputization order/paper - Documentation PA Staff training for enforcement capacities
	There are major deficiencies in staff capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations (e.g. lack of skills, no patrol budget, lack of institutional support). In addition to PASu, presence of full time PA staff, an enforcement plan, budget and equipment, systematic monitoring and reporting.	1	Asses if % of budget for enforcement is allocated and utilized. Law Enforcement Plan is usually incorporated in the PAMP and should be reviewed.	Acceptable vs. excellent capacity/resources to enforce PA legislation
	The staff has acceptable capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations but some deficiencies remain. Presence of trained fulltime PA staff, an enforcement plan, budget and equipment, systematic monitoring and reporting. <i>(Note: An updated deputization order/ paper should be provided).</i>	2	"Systematic" is based on PAMP, will include: activity, timeline, person responsible, budget, logbook of patrols conducted, apprehensions when applicable.	- Logbook of patrols, frequency - Number of operations - Number of apprehensions, reported confiscation, seizures - Systematic monitoring and reporting system that is working and functional
	The staff has excellent capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations. Presence of trained fulltime PA staff, an enforcement plan, budget and equipment, systematic monitoring and reporting. <i>(Note: An updated deputization order/ paper should be provided).</i>	3		Indicator related to #10 - Enforcement report - Accomplishment report

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
4. Protected area objectives	No firm objectives have been agreed for the protected area.	0		
Is management undertaken according to agreed objectives? PLANNING	The protected area has agreed objectives, but is not managed according to these objectives. The objectives in the PAMP/IPAP are specific and quantified in terms of special features, biophysical (species populations/ecosystem benefits), and socio-economic outcomes as appropriate. Less than 50% of WFP and available staff and budget are addressing the key priorities of the PAMP/IPAP.	1	Basis for scoring is the PAMP/IPAP (Initial Protected Area Plan). Need to ask if there are objectives in the plan(s) and if these are being implemented. Basis for evaluating implementation is the WFP.	- Objectives indicated in the PAMP/IPAP are clear, verifiable, and quantifiable (species, ecosystems, threats, and socio-economic) - Work and financial plan (implementation plan) matches the identified objectives - Measurement is through the activities in the Management Plan that matches its objectives - Accomplishment report (monthly, quarterly, annually) - Implementation plan in 10 years enumerating the activities
	The protected area has agreed objectives, but is only partially managed according to these objectives. The objectives in the PAMP/IPAP are specific and quantified in terms of special features, biophysical (species populations/ecosystem benefits), and socio-economic outcomes as appropriate. At least 50% of WFP and available staff and budget are addressing the key priorities of the PAMP/IPAP.	2		
	The protected area has agreed objectives and is managed to meet these objectives. The objectives in the PAMP/IPAP are specific and quantified in terms of special features, biophysical (species populations/ecosystem benefits), and socio-economic outcomes as appropriate. At least 70% of WFP and available staff and budget addressing the key priorities of the PAMP/IPAP.	3		

	The boundary of the protected area is known by both the management authority and local residents/ neighboring land users but is not appropriately demarcated. Signs exist at major entry points and boundaries are based upon landmarks in the field (i.e., terrestrial landmarks; marine: technical description).	2	<i>terrestrial PAs: A: to use landmarks when applicable, i.e., for terrestrial PAs; for marine, technical description to be visible in "jump-off" points (= entry points at landward side).</i>	- socialization of management zones - Survey reports to ensure constant proper demarcation of PA boundaries. - Validation should be conducted to check if local residents are aware of PA boundaries - Consultation with the local residents regarding their knowledge of the PA boundaries
	The boundary of the protected area is known by the management authority and local residents/ neighboring land users and is appropriately demarcated. Perimeter is clearly demarcated (i.e., for marine, technical descriptions are visible from jump-off points/landward side).	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
7. Management Plan Is there a management plan and is it being implemented? PLANNING	There is no management plan for the protected area. The management plan is still being prepared.	0		- Management plan ○ MP officially approved by the PAMB and adopted to score 1 ○ Documentation on management plan activities being implemented / accomplishment report ○ For sites designated under international conventions (e.g. Ramsar) or local/traditional law [refer to legal context], management plans must be written down and approved by relevant stakeholders or TWG ■ Minutes of the meeting, customary agreements or memorandum

	A management plan has been prepared but is not being implemented. Management plan has been officially adopted.	1		● PAMB resolutions ● Work and financial plan ● Monitoring and evaluation reports - regular feedbacking of activity progress based on the implementation plan or WFP ● If the Management Plan (MP) is not yet endorsed by the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), the indicator score will be 0 because it is not yet implemented ● If the MP is already adapted but still in revision, the score will be one (1).
	A management plan exists but it is only being partially implemented because of funding constraints or other problems. The highest priority activities of the official management plan are being implemented.	2		
	A management plan exists and is being implemented. At least 70% of the activities (including all high priority activities) of the official management plan are being implemented.	3		
7a. Planning process	The planning process allows adequate opportunity for key stakeholders to influence the management plan.	+1		These additional parameters go beyond the basic assessment and identify whether good practices are in place. 7a ● Minutes of the PAMB meeting ● Attendance sheets
7b. Planning process	There is an established schedule and process for periodic review and updating of the management plan.	+1		7b ● Most management plans cover 5-10-year periods. This parameter captures whether changes (e.g. new threats and drivers, natural disaster events, availability of funding) can be integrated into the plan. ● Minutes of the PAMB meeting ● Documentation and schedule of periodic review incorporated in the implementation plan or WFP
7c. Planning process	The results of monitoring, research and evaluation are routinely incorporated into planning.	+1		

7d. Operations Manual		+1		7c - Minutes of the PAMB meeting - Biodiversity and threats assessment or monitoring reports - List of scientific research being carried out and its relevance to management - Accomplishment report 7d - Operations manual approved by the PAMB
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
8. Regular work plan (Annual WFP) Is there a regular work plan and is it being implemented? PLANNING	No regular work plan exists	0		
	A regular work plan exists but few of the activities are implemented. Less than 50% of WFP is implemented.	1		
	A regular work plan exists and many activities are implemented. At least 50% of WFP activities (including priority activities) is implemented.	2		- Approved annual work and financial plan incorporated into the management plan - Documentation of status (ongoing, completed, abandoned, scheduled for future implementation) or progress of activities in the WFP - Minutes of the meeting - PAMB resolutions
	A regular work plan exists and all activities are implemented. At least 70% of WFP activities (including priority activities) is implemented.	3		Monthly, quarterly, and annual accomplishment reports

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
9. Resource inventory Do you have enough information to manage the area? INPUT	There is little or no information available on the critical habitats, species and cultural values of the protected area. <i>If information is more than 10 years and have not been updated.</i>	0	Basis for assessment If the RBI (Resource Biodiversity Inventory) and whether information feeds into planning and decision making for biodiversity observation and PA management.	- Ecological assessments conducted every five years - BAMS, BMS, and other reporting of the like - Socio-economic and cultural values assessments conducted regularly - Results of ecological and cultural research inform key areas of planning and decision-making (must not be limited to species list, conservation status, and diversity indices -- should be spatial, and - Indicate that the information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient and is being used. - The Biodiversity Assessment and Monitoring System (BAMS) report (conducted every 3 years) - If a progress report is only submitted for BAMS, the indicator score is 1. - Wetlands should be added to inventory
	Information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is not sufficient to support planning and decision making.	1		
	Information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient for most key areas of planning and decision making.	2		
	Information on the critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient to support all areas of planning and decision making.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
10. Protection systems Are systems in place to control access/resource use in the protected area? PROCESS	Protection systems (patrols, permits etc) do not exist or are not effective in controlling access/resource use. Score is also 0 if there is inadequate systematic monitoring and reporting of violations.	0	Clarification on protection vs apprehension: Reporting of violations does not necessarily translate into "protection systems" but it is a required basis for	- Work and financial plan - Enforcement plan (presence/absence, status of implementation, list of stakeholders involved) - Patrol and monitoring plan - Accomplishment reports - Enforcement report - Logbook of patrols, frequency
	Protection systems are only partially effective in controlling access/resource use. At least 70% of reported violations were apprehended based upon systematic monitoring.	1		

Protection systems are moderately effective in controlling access/ resource use. At least 70% of reported violations apprehended, and at least 70% of apprehensions administratively resolved or filed/ resolved in court based upon systematic monitoring.	2	assessing protection systems.	● Number of operations ● Number of apprehensions, reported confiscation, seizures ● Issuance of Special Orders (SOs) == reported against biodiversity status
Protection systems are largely or wholly effective in controlling access/ resource use. At least 70% of reported violations apprehended, and at least 70% of apprehensions administratively resolved or filed/ resolved in court based upon systematic monitoring. Moreover, systematic monitoring indicates that violations are decreasing.	3		
Improved patrol, reduced violations, improved biodiversity!			

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
11. Research Is there a programme of management-orientated survey and research work? Please attach results of studies PROCESS	There is no survey or research work taking place in the protected area.	0	<i>To objectify the highest score, research should be properly integrated into the needs of protected area management</i>	This could include research work carried out by the protected area itself but more usually covers research by associates, volunteers, students, citizen science recorders and academics. ● Research outputs conducted by the PA (solely or in partnership with other organizations) ● PAMB Resolutions on approved research works within the PA ● PA management Plan ● Annual work and financial plan for research works within the PA ● Research that addresses Protective Area (PA) management gaps
	There is a small amount of survey and research work but it is not directed towards the needs of protected area management.	1		
	There is considerable survey and research work but it is not directed towards the needs of protected area management.	2		

	There is a comprehensive, integrated programme of survey and research work, which is relevant to management needs.	3		- Research agenda in Protected Area Management Enhancement (PAME) - Research made by academic institutions - Accomplishment reports (monthly, quarterly, annually) - Minutes of the PAMB meeting
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
12. Resource management Is active resource management being undertaken? PROCESS	Active resource management is not being undertaken. No annual WFP.	0	<i>Please provide adequate supporting documentation. Clear cut-offs for each level have not been determined and will be determined from a review of all incoming reports.</i>	Resource management covers many activities and would require a thorough review and justification. May include protection and enforcement budget and resources (patrolling, apprehensions, staffing requirements, equipment, budget for operations, etc.), protection of species and ecosystems (monitoring, research), restoration activities (plant nursery establishment, reforestation), community organizing, and education and awareness activities.
	Very few of the requirements for active management of critical habitats, species, ecological processes and cultural values are being implemented. Presence of a WFP and less than 50% of the requirements for resource management is implemented.	1	<i>To objectively assess "resource management", there is need to review the PAMP and WFP first. For NIPAS sites, Resource Management is required by law. Without the PAMP/WFP, then there is no basis for</i>	- PA Management Plan - Annual work and financial plan with cut-offs for each level and documentation for resource management - Budget audit reports - Accomplishment report - Specific conservation plans for specific species and habitats - Generic species and conservation plans
	Many of the requirements for active management of critical habitats, species, ecological processes and, cultural values are being implemented but some key issues are not being addressed. Presence of a WFP and 50-70% of the requirements for resource management is implemented.	2		

	Requirements for active management of critical habitats, species, ecological processes and, cultural values are being substantially or fully implemented. Presence of a WFP and 100% of the requirements for resource management is implemented.	3	evaluation and scoring. Thus, a low score. Recommend collection of related information.	
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
13. Staff numbers Are there enough people employed to manage the protected area? INPUTS	There is no staff. Only the PASu.	0	Please provide organizational structure including numbers of staff and volunteers, tasks/roles and level of effort. Clear cut-offs for each level have not been determined and will be determined from a review of all incoming reports. Focus is on number of PA staff employed. Will also include the number of volunteers. Premise: an organizational structure should be available based on the PAMP. Also state if PASu is concurrent PENRO/MENRO.	● PA management plan ● Organizational structure ● Number of PA Staff (permanent, contractals, volunteers, and job orders) with roles, tasks and their LOEs vs interventions identified and PA size ● Individual Performance Commitment and Review (IPCR) ● Activity report ● Terms of Reference (TOR) of contractors ● Succession Plan based on Competency-Based System (CBS)
	Staff numbers are inadequate for critical management activities.	1		
	Staffing below minimum requirements under the PAMP.	2		
	Staff numbers are below optimum level for critical management activities. Staffing meets minimum requirements under the PAMP.	3		
	Staff numbers are adequate for the management needs of the protected area. All staffing requirement in the PAMPs Organization Chart filled.			

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
14. Staff training Are staff adequately trained to fulfill management objectives? INPUTS	Staff lack the skills needed for protected area management.	0		
	Staff training and skills are low relative to the needs of the protected area. Technical staff (volunteers are not included in this requirement) can identify the specific features being conserved and can explain their benefits to key stakeholders.	1	<i>Questions may be asked directly to the PASu. Two layers for this question:</i> <i>1st: general education of staff,</i> <i>2nd: training on the job applied for. Does the training the staff had for the last five years match the needs in PA management.</i>	● PA staff educational profile and competencies ● Summary of training attended by the PA Staff matching the needs of the PA ● Certificates ● Pre and post-evaluation ● Personal Data Sheet of staff ● Competency-Based System (CBS)
	Staff training and skills are adequate, but could be further improved to fully achieve the objectives of management. Each staff has at least a general education and one (1) training that specifically directly matches his/her primary role in PA management. Technical staff can identify the specific features being conserved and can explain their benefits to key stakeholders.	2		
	Staff training and skills are aligned with the management needs of the protected area. This should not be based upon perception but on actual capability compared to competency standards. That is, you may think you know but you don't. Or you may think you don't know enough, but you actually know enough.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
15. Current budget Is the current budget sufficient? INPUTS	There is no budget for management of the protected area. No WFP.	0	Please provide budget and expenditure per year for last 3 years including breakdown of line items. Clear cut-offs for each level have not been determined and will be determined from a review of all incoming reports. (Note: Also refer to #8, Regular Work Plan).	- Relates to the total amount of annual budget, rather than to budget security. - Work and financial plan (% implementation) - Budget expenditure for the last 3 years - Budget allocation reports, including government allocation, admission fees, donor support/funding and compared to the running costs of the PA - Budget utilization reports - Protected Area (PA) management plan - External funds and donor-supported funding - Local Government Unit (LGU) and foreign-assisted projects
	The available budget is inadequate for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage. Less than 50% of WFP is implemented.	1		
	The available budget is acceptable but could be further improved to fully achieve effective management. At least 50% of WFP activities (including priority activities) is implemented.	2		
	The available budget is enough and meets the full management needs of the protected area. At least 70% of WFP activities (including priority activities) is implemented.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
16. Security of budget Is the budget secure? INPUTS	There is no secure budget for the protected area and management is wholly reliant on outside or highly variable funding.	0	To note that Expenditure is only based from MOOE. Capital expenditure is based from IPAF.	- Budget expenditure report - Budget report detailing DENR and LGU counterparts - Work and financial plan - Documentation of activities jointly implemented by DENR and LGU, and other local stakeholders
	There is very little secure budget and the protected area could not function adequately without outside funding. Both DENR and LGU have each provided budget (in cash or in kind) over each of the last 2 years.	1		

	There is a reasonably secure core budget for regular operation of the protected area but many innovations and initiatives are reliant on outside funding Both DENR and LGU have each provided budget (in cash or in kind) over each of the last 5 years.	2		- Long-term MOAs, MOUs, partnership agreements (>10-years) - Special Use Agreement in Protected Areas (SAPA)
	There is a secure budget for the protected area and its management needs. Both DENR and LGU have each provided budget (in cash or in kind) over each of the last 7 years. In addition, user fees have provided at least 30% of the budget in the last 5 years.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
17. Management of budget Is the budget managed to meet critical management needs? PROCESS	Budget management is very poor and significantly undermines effectiveness (e.g. late release of budget in financial year).	0	<i>Expenditures only based from MOOE. Capital expenditures is based from IPAF.</i>	- Annual budget expenditure reporting if the budget was spent for the purpose intended (overspends? underspends?) - Annual budget audit reports - Work and Financial Plan (WFP) - Accomplishment report - Physical and financial accomplishment report - Budget expenditure report
	Budget management is poor and constraints effectiveness. At least 60% of the planned annual budget was actually spent for the purpose it was intended.	1		
	Budget management is adequate but could be improved. At least 70% of the planned annual budget was actually spent for the purpose it was intended.	2		

	Budget management is excellent and meets management needs. At least 80% of the planned annual budget was actually spent for the purpose it was intended.	3		
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
18. Equipment Is equipment sufficient for management needs? INPUT	There are little or no equipment and facilities for management needs.	0	<i>Rationale: the means to enforce, patrol and respond. (Refer to #3, Law Enforcement)</i>	● Inventory and checklist of equipment and facilities based on management needs ○ Communication systems, vehicles, tools, uniforms (enforcement) ○ Equipment related to scientific research (for monitoring key species based on the management plan targets) ○ Checkpoints, Guard posts, offices, etc. ● Work and financial plan (e.g. fuel, data) ● Patrolling and biodiversity and threats monitoring reports ● Maintenance and recommendation report on equipment <i>Can be rated if PA has sufficient funds intended for the improvement of facilities and equipments that are used by PA staffs.</i>
	There are some equipment and facilities but these are inadequate for most management needs. There is capability to communicate among all key stakeholders (PAMB ExeCom and PA staff) and enforcers located in any point of the protected area within 1 hour.	1		
	There are equipment and facilities, but still some gaps that constrain management. There is capability to communicate among all key stakeholders and enforcers located in any point of the protected area within 1 hour. At least 2 enforcers can reach any point of the protected area within 8 hours.	2		
	There are adequate equipment and facilities. There is capability to communicate among all key stakeholders and enforcers located in any point of the protected area within 1 hour. At least 2 enforcers can reach any point of the protected area within 8 hours. There is adequate equipment such that the safety of enforcers in arresting major violators is ensured.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
19. Maintenance of equipment Is equipment adequately maintained? PROCESS	There is little or no maintenance of equipment and facilities.	0		● Inventory/database of equipment with complete documentation (e.g. date procured, price, specs, regular reports on condition/status of equipment).
	There is some <i>ad hoc</i> maintenance of equipment and facilities. Communication and transportation equipment have been maintained for at least 5 years.	1		● WFP with budget allocated specifically for maintenance of equipment and facilities.
	There is basic maintenance of equipment and facilities. Communication and transportation equipment have been maintained for at least 10 years.	2		● WFP with budget set-aside for replacing equipment in line with their depreciation rate.
	Equipment and facilities are well maintained. Communication and transportation equipment have been maintained for at least 10 years. In addition, adequate financial resources are pro-actively being set aside to replace equipment in line with their depreciation rate.	3		● Consider regular upgrades of equipment or updates of software/programs ---- criteria is mostly focused on equipment (comms and transportation) maintained for 5-10 years ● Maintenance and recommendation report ● Regular reports on equipment status ● Work and Financial Plan (WFP) ● Quality Management System (QMS) ● Maintenance schedule

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
20. Education and awareness Is there a planned education programme linked to the objectives and needs? PROCESS	There is no education and awareness programme.	0		Consideration needs to be made on what is appropriate, depending on the conservation targets of the PA, location of the PA, demographics of communities living within or adjacent to the PA. Criteria is about presence/absence of educational program or IEC, and whether it is being implemented or not. Considerations must be made if the IEC/CEPA plan has measurable targets and indicators (e.g., number of people reached, etc.), and whether PAs report/evaluate their progress against those targets. • IEC, CEPA or communication plans (MUST be linked to the PA objectives) • Attendance sheets • Activity documentation • Pre- and post-evaluation • Knowledge, Attitude and Perception (KAP) Survey • Special Use Agreement in Protected Areas (SAPA) report
	There is a limited and <i>ad hoc</i> education and awareness programme.	1		
	There is an education and awareness programme but it only partly meets needs and could be improved.	2		
	There is an appropriate and fully implemented education and awareness programme.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
21. Planning for adjacent land and	Adjacent land and water use planning does not take into account the needs of the protected area and activities/policies are detrimental to the survival of the area.	0	Need to have information on the availability of the	• Updated and long term plans for CDP, CLUP, FLUP and ICM recognizing management zones and buffer zones of the protected area

water use Does land and water use planning recognise the protected area and aid the achievement of objectives? PLANNING	Adjacent land and water use planning does not take into account the long term needs of the protected area, but activities are not detrimental the area. Existing Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), and Integrated Coastal Management Plan (ICM), if any, do not conflict with the PA plan (even if it was not explicitly intended as such).	1	relevant plans (e.g., CDP, CLUP, FLUP, ICM and Provincial Development Plan(s), others. If and when available, to get copies also. Such plans will provide basis for assessing consistency/inconsistency with PA mgt and possible recommendation to improve not so ideal conditions.	• Verification of consistency for long term accounts of CDP, CLUP, FLUP and ICM with the PA Management Plan and management zones • Local Government Unit (LGU)-related ordinances • Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP) • Marine Protected Area Network (MPAN)
	Adjacent land and water use planning partially takes into account the long term needs of the protected area. CDP, CLUP, FLUP, and ICM incorporate or is intentionally consistent with the Protected Area plan.	2		
	Adjacent land and water use planning fully takes into account the long term needs of the protected area. CDP, CLUP, FLUP, ICM and Provincial Development Plan(s) incorporate or is intentionally consistent with the Protected Area Plan and directly contributes to Protected Area management.	3		
21a: Land and water planning for habitat conservation	Planning and management in the catchment or landscape containing the protected area incorporates provision for adequate environmental conditions (e.g. volume, quality and timing of water flow, air pollution levels etc) to sustain relevant habitats.	+1		These additional parameters go beyond the basic assessment and identify whether good practices are in place.
21b: Land and water planning for connectivity	Management of corridors linking the protected area provides for wildlife passage to key habitats outside the protected area (e.g. to allow migratory fish to travel between freshwater spawning sites and the sea, or to allow animal migration).	+1		• Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP), Comprehensive Land Use Plan (CLUP), Forest Land Use Plan (FLUP), and Integrated Coastal Management Plan (ICM) • Management Zones incorporated and consistent with the adjacent CDP, CLUP, FLUP

21c: Land and water planning for ecosystem services & species conservation	"Planning addresses ecosystem-specific needs and/or the needs of particular species of concern at an ecosystem scale (e.g. volume, quality and timing of freshwater flow to sustain particular species, fire management to maintain savannah habitats etc.)"	+1	• and ICM • Water catchment, watershed, and river basins are defined within the Protected Area • Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP) • Marine-Protected Area Network (MPAN) • Watershed Management Plans • Water Quality Management Area (WQMA)
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
22. State and commercial neighbors Is there co-operation with adjacent land and water users? PROCESS	There is no contact between managers and neighboring official or corporate land and water users.	0	<i>Is there co-operation with government and commercial interests surrounding, impacting on and/or benefiting from the protected area? This could include</i> • water suppliers, • hydroelectric plants, ranchers, forestry activities or similar. <i>Note that</i> <i>tourism operators are the subject of their own question.</i>	• Signed MOAs/agreements for co-operation with adjacent land and water use • PAMB Resolutions on co-operation with government and commercial interests (water suppliers, hydroelectric plants, solar, ranchers, forestry activities or similar.)
	There is contact between managers and neighboring official or corporate land and water users but little or no cooperation.	1		
	There is contact between managers and neighboring official or corporate land and water users, but only some co-operation. There are MOAs/agreements with at least 20% of LGUs and 1 of the top 5 corporate users.	2		
	There is regular contact between managers and neighboring official or corporate land and water users, and substantial co-operation on management. There are MOAs/agreements with at least 50% of LGUs and 2 of the top 5 corporate users and priority activities of the agreements are being implemented.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
23. Indigenous people Do indigenous and traditional peoples resident or regularly using the protected area have input to management decisions? PROCESS	Indigenous and traditional peoples have no input into decisions relating to the management of the protected area. Indigenous and traditional peoples are in the area but are not represented in the PAMB.	0	<i>For areas with with no IPs - Not Applicable</i>	• Attendance Sheet • Minutes of the meeting and interventions • Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) appointment of Indigenous Peoples (IPs) • Communication letters to Indigenous Peoples (IPs) • Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP) • Coordination and complementation committee of PAMB for IPs Can be verified by checking on the participation and involvement of indigenous people towards activities inclined with PA management.
	Indigenous and traditional peoples have some input into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management. Indigenous and traditional peoples are in the area and are represented in the PAMB but do not actually participate in the meetings	1		
	Indigenous and traditional peoples directly contribute to some relevant decisions relating to management but their involvement could be improved. Indigenous and traditional peoples are in the area and are represented in the PAMB and actually participate in the meetings and in field activities	2		
	Indigenous and traditional peoples directly participate in all relevant decisions relating to management, e.g. co-management. Indigenous and traditional peoples are in the area and are represented in the PAMB, actually participate in the meetings and lead some field activities.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
24. Local communities Do local communities	Local communities have no input into decisions relating to the management of the protected area. Local communities are not represented in the PAMB	0	Local communities refers to barangays which are represented by the	• Attendance sheets • Minutes of the meetings

resident or near the protected area have input to management decisions? PROCESS	Local communities have some input into discussions relating to management but no direct role in management. Local communities are represented in the PAMB but do not actually participate in the meetings.	1	Brgy Captain	● <i>Documentation of intervention and activities</i> ● Protected Area Management Board (PAMB) ● Minutes of the Meeting ● Barangay or Local Government Unit (LGU) resolution in support of the Protected Area (PA) near the area <i>Can be verified by checking on the participation and involvement of local community residents towards activities inclined with PA management.</i>
	Local communities directly contribute to some relevant decisions relating to management but their involvement could be improved. Local communities are represented in the PAMB and actually participate in the meetings and in field activities.	2		
	Local communities directly participate in all relevant decisions relating to management, e.g. co-management. Local communities are represented in the PAMB, actually participate in the meetings and lead some field activities.	3		
<u>Additional points Local communities/indigenous peoples</u>				Evidence is needed if this additional score is given...
24a. Impact on communities	There is open communication and trust between local and/or indigenous people, stakeholders and protected area managers.	+1		● Communication plan ● Attendance sheet ● Documentation on activities where community partners helped with surveys, providing political support amongst local government
24b. Impact on communities	Programmes to enhance community welfare, while conserving protected area resources, are being implemented.	+1		● Memorandum of Agreement ● Ancestral Domain Sustainable Development Protection Plan (ADSDPP) ● Minutes of the Meeting ● Coastal Resource Management Project (CRMP) of tenured migrants, plans, and reports
24c. Impact on communities	Local and/or indigenous people actively support the protected area.	+1		● Knowledge, Attitude and Practices (KAP)

				survey - Protected Area Community-Based Resource Management Agreement (PACBRMA) implementation report - Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) between Indigenous Peoples (IPs) and Protected Area (PA) manager - Socio-economic Assessment and Monitoring System (SEAMS) report - Annual work and financial plan - Biodiversity-friendly Enterprise (BDPE) - Community Based Sustainable Tourism (CBST) reports Can be verified by checking on the participation and involvement of local community residents towards activities inclined with PA management.
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification / Explanation / Remarks	Means of Verification
25. Economic benefit (Ecosystem Services) Is the protected area providing economic benefits (ecosystem services) to local communities, e.g. income, employment, payment for	The protected area does not deliver any economic benefits (ecosystem services) to local communities.	0	This question is aimed explicitly at local communities. Benefits can include direct jobs, payment for Ecosystem Service schemes, indirect	<i>Identification of whether a Protected Area is engaging into livelihood activities towards the Local Government Units as well as the communities which may include activities such as ecotourism which could be of help for residents in the PAs.</i> - Payments for Ecosystem Services - Annual income generation of CBST (Community-based tourism management), and other local-based groups for income and
	Potential economic benefits (ecosystem services) are recognised and plans to realise these have been developed.	1		

environmental services? OUTCOMES	There is some flow of economic benefits (ecosystem services) to local communities.	2	benefits from increased tourism or sales to visitors, and other options such as guiding.	• employment • SEAMS report • Protected Area Community-Based Resource Management Agreement (PACBRMA) reports • Biodiversity-friendly enterprise (BDFE) • Ecotourism impact monitoring report • Increase of household income based on Socio-economic Assessment and Monitoring System (SEAMS) monitoring • Inventories of beneficiaries of technical and financial assistance from BDFE
	There is a major flow of economic benefits to local communities from activities associated with the protected area. At least 10% of households are receiving economic benefits. (This should not include direct employment by the protected area management.).	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification / Explanation / Remarks	Means of Verification
26. Monitoring and evaluation Are management activities monitored against performance? PROCESS	There is no monitoring and evaluation in the protected area.	0	This addresses monitoring and evaluation of both the management activities of the protected area, which impact on the condition of key values, and the threats to the protected area.	• Protected Area Management Plan • Work and financial plan • Budget expenditure and allocation for monitoring and evaluation • Monitoring and evaluation reports • Accomplishment report • Performance evaluation • Monthly, quarterly, and annual monitoring accomplishment • Budget utilization report • Progress report of foreign-assisted projects • Indicators and projects • Monitoring of logical framework
	There is some <i>ad hoc</i> monitoring and evaluation, but no overall strategy and/or no regular collection of results.	1		
	There is an agreed and implemented monitoring and evaluation system but results do not feed back into management. Governance, bio-physical and socio-economic parameters were regularly monitored over the last 3 years.	2		
	A good monitoring and evaluation system exists, is well implemented and used in adaptive management.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
27. Visitor facilities Are visitor facilities adequate? OUTPUTS	There are no visitor facilities and services despite an identified need.	0		Validator must take into consideration that not all PAs need visitor facilities. This indicator should be scored based on the needs and targets of the PA. For PAs with intention to have tourists/visitors: ● Tourism plan ● Carrying capacity, evidence that facilities (access trails with signs, toilet, shelter, maps, communication systems, security and checkpoints) meet the needs of number of peak level visitors ● Emergency response team and mechanism in place For PAs with no intention to have tourists/visitors: ● Emergency response team and mechanism in place and working to score 3 ● It is noted not all Protected Areas (PAs) need visitor facilities due to the nature of terrain, location, etc. <i>Checking on the visitor's center of PAs and identifying whether visitor facilities and services provided are sufficient in the area. Observing on the availability of whether the facilities provided for travelers are well maintained.</i>
	Visitor facilities and services are inappropriate for current levels of visitation. Access trails, toilet(s) and shelters are inadequate.	1		
	Visitor facilities and services are adequate for current levels of visitation but could be improved. Access trails, toilet(s) and shelters are adequate to meet the needs of 80% of the peak level of visitors	2		
	Visitor facilities and services are excellent for current levels of visitation. Access trails, toilet(s), shelters and a visitor center are adequate to meet the needs of 100% of the peak level of visitors and there is an emergency response team and mechanism.	3		

Issue	Criteria	Score	Justification/ Explanation/ Remarks	Means of Verification
28. Commercial tourism operators Do commercial tour operators contribute to protected area management? PROCESS	There is little or no contact between managers and tourism operators using the protected area.	0		● PAMB resolutions ● Signed memorandum of agreements or memorandum of understanding between PA management and commercial and tourism operators (to score 2 points, at least 75% of operators present in the PA with signed agreements)
	There is contact between managers and tourism operators but this is largely confined to administrative or regulatory matters.	1		● Commercial and tourism operators are represented during planning - attendance sheets, minutes of the meeting
	There is limited co-operation between managers and tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences and maintain protected area values. There is a signed agreement between managers and tourism operators.	2		● Documentation of commercial and tourism operators are actively participating in PA activities/events ● EIA reports and monitoring/regulation reports e.g. water quality, easement management, water management, etc (if necessary for commercial establishments)
	There is good co-operation between managers and tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences, and maintain protected area values. Tourism operators actually lead relevant elements of implementation including maintenance of key features (PA values).	3		● It is noted that the Protected Area Management Enhancement (PAME) operates the ecotourism facilities itself.