



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

SEP 07 2022

MEMORANDUM

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

: The Regional Director
MGB MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

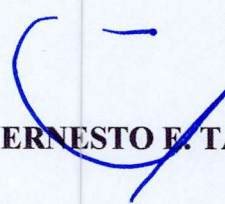
FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer

SUBJECT : INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE ALLEGED DUMPING OF
AGGREGATES ALONG CAGURAY RIVER, BARANGAY
PURNAGA, MUNICIPALITY OF MAGSAYSAY,
OCCIDENTAL MINDORO



Respectfully forwarded is the memorandum dated August 17, 2022 from CENRO San Jose regarding the report dated July 19, 2022 of the MGB MIMAROPA Region Technical Personnel pertaining to the above mentioned subject.

For information and further instruction.


ERNESTO E. TAÑADA



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

AUG 17 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director
MGB MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

THRU : The OIC, PENR Officer
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

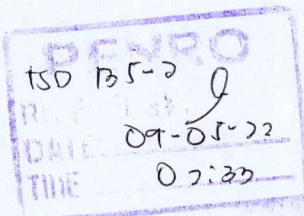
FROM : The CENR Officer

SUBJECT : INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE ALLEGED DUMPING
OF AGGREGATES ALONG CAGURAY RIVER,
BARANGAY PURNAGA, MUNICIPALITY OF
MAGSAYSAY, OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

Respectfully forwarded is a copy of the report dated 19 July 2022 of the MGB MIMAROPA Region Technical Personnel regarding the above-cited subject.

For information, record and further instruction.


EFREN L. DELOS REYES



Brgy. Labangan, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro
Tel. Number (043) 457-0236/(043) 742-6627
Email: cenrosan jose@denr.gov.ph



19 July 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The CENR Officer

THRU : The Chief, Enforcement and Monitoring Section

FROM : The Undersigned

SUBJECT : INVESTIGATION REPORT ON THE ALLEGED DUMPING OF
AGGREGATES ALONG CAGURAY RIVER, BARANGAY
PURNAGA, MUNICIPALITY OF MAGSAYSAY, OCCIDENTAL
MINDORO

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

This Office received a letter dated 04 July 2022, from Ms. Laila M. Agnes, Punong Barangay of Paclolo, Magsaysay, requesting a site assessment of a section of the Caguray River adjacent their barangay. The letter stated that there were problems in the mentioned section of the river, but no further details were provided other than photos of the site included in the letter.

In response to the foregoing, the undersigned, accompanied by Forester Hector S. Aragon, Chief of the Enforcement and Monitoring Section of CENRO San Jose, conducted an investigation into the matter on 11 July 2022. The undertaking included dialogue/interviews with Sangguniang Barangay Members of Paclolo and other parties involved, as well as an ocular inspection of the concerned area.

FIELD FINDINGS

Presented below are the compiled information and field findings acquired by the undersigned during the undertaking:

1. To determine the scope of the request and complaint, the undersigned first proceeded to the Barangay Hall of Paclolo and interviewed Sangguniang Barangay Members Mr.

Brgy. Labangan, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro
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Onofre B. Montilla and Mr. Jerry P. Campo. Punong Barangay Agnes was not around at the time.

The following information were gathered from the above interview:

- There was an alleged dumping of aggregates along the *riverbank* of the mentioned section of the Caguray River, which was said to affect its channel flow.
 - The dumping of aggregates for the purpose of planting crops was allegedly initiated/allowed by Ms. Vilma Atienza and Mr. Rolando Balbino, both SB Members from Barangay Purnaga.
 - The SB members of Barangay Paclolo are concerned that the said activity will divert river water flow and pose a flood risk in the barangay's low-lying area near the riverbank.
2. The undersigned then inspected the reported site. As mentioned above, it is situated along the riverbank of a segment of Caguray River in Barangay Purnaga defined by geographical coordinates 121° 11' 52" East Longitude and 12° 23' 8" North Latitude based on the Global Positioning System (GPS). It is located approximately 10 kilometers aerial distance northeast of Magsaysay Municipal Hall and accessible by any utility vehicles via roadways and thoroughfares from the town proper.
3. In an interview, Ms. Atienza and Mr. Balbino revealed that the piled-up aggregates came from a nearby road construction project, and that the riverbank where they were dumped is a titled lot/property owned by a certain Mr. Elias. They stated that the contractors for the said project were unable to find any location to dump the aggregates, so they proposed dumping them on the said lot. (See Photo A-1)

It was confirmed by the Regulation and Permitting Section of this Office that the titled lot/property is owned by a Mr. Welito B. Elias.

4. The following were observed during the site inspection:
- The aggregates were dumped along the riverbank of Caguray River and not within its active channel. (See Photos A-2-3)
 - The site is considered part of the Lourdes-Paclolo reach of Caguray River which is characterized by well-defined *point bars* or the accumulation zone of river deposits, as well as *cut banks* or areas constantly eroded by running water.
 - The point bar of this segment of the river is situated near the riverbank adjacent to the low-lying areas of Brgy. Paclolo, which is heavily silted with pebble to cobble deposits. On the contrary, the riverbank on the side of Barangay Purnaga, where the dumped aggregates are located, is being continuously eroded by the river. (See Photo A-4)
5. Previously a rice field, portions of the said riverbank are now utilized by river quarry operators to stockpile sand and gravel deposits. Some of these stockpiles were noted during the site assessment (See Photo A-5). According to the locals, some of these

materials are being stockpiled and used by private contractors for the road construction project near the area.

However, it was not confirmed whether the above stockpiled aggregates were extracted in the said portion of the river or if they were extracted elsewhere and simply stockpiled near the road construction project.

According to the existing list of Quarry Permit Holders of the PG-Environment and Natural Resources Office (ENRO), there are only two (2) active sand and gravel extraction permits along Caguray River within the jurisdiction of Poblacion, Magsaysay.

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In view of the foregoing findings, hereunder are the comments and recommendations of the undersigned:

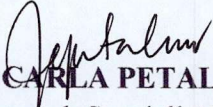
1. The stretch of Caguray River is characterized by a meandering morphology with *point bars* and *cut banks* which allow lateral migration of the river channel. The point bars are heavily accumulated with predominantly coarse sand to gravel-sized deposits. Because the Lourdes – Paclolo reach of Caguray River is more dynamic than the other segment of the river, consistent deposition and erosion processes occur. As previously stated, well-defined point bars and cut banks were observed in the vicinity of the site.

Erosion takes place at the cut bank along Barangay Purnaga adjacent to the subject area. As a result, scouring of riverbank in the barangay is expected to continue. On the contrary, the heavily silted point bar and river flow direction are to the areas covered by Barangay Paclolo, resulting in a relatively shallow channel that is prone to extensive river overflows/flooding, particularly during rainy season. In addition, the barangay is located at a relatively lower elevation than Purnaga, making it more vulnerable to flooding events.

2. To reiterate, the aggregates were dumped along the existing riverbank of Caguray River and not within its channel. Rivers naturally divert their course mainly driven by the combination of bank erosion and point bar deposition over time. Significant changes to the channel flow may not occur as long as the current state of the river and its banks are not disturbed (i.e., no stockpiling or dumping of aggregates *within* the active river course, and intentional extraction of aggregates along the riverbanks).
3. The local government of Barangay Paclolo is also advised to closely monitor the said activity, as well as any other activities near the Caguray River to ensure that the river's current condition is not disturbed or affected.
4. Likewise, both the LGUs of Barangays Paclolo and Purnaga should prohibit quarry operators from stockpiling extracted river deposits within the river channel. Moreover, additional vegetation in critical riverbank slopes and floodplain areas can be

introduced to augment appropriate protection measures for potential flood and erosion hazards.

For your information, reference, and further instruction.


JEBIELA CARLA PETALCORIN
Science Research Specialist II


SHAKYRA KHIEL I. BELMONTE
Science Research Specialist II

cc: **The Regional Executive Director**
Department of Environment and Natural Resources – MIMAROPA Region

The Regional Director
Mines and Geosciences Bureau – MIMAROPA Region

ANNEX A – Photo Documentation



Photo 1. Forester Hector Aragonés (middle) during an interview with Barangay Purnaga SB Members Ms. Vilma Atienza (right) and Mr. Rolando Balbino (on the left).



Photo 2. The extent of the dumped yellowish to brownish colored aggregates along a section of the Caguray riverbank near Barangay Purnaga.



Photo 3. The extent of the dumped yellowish to brownish colored aggregates along a section of the Caguray riverbank near Barangay Purnaga.

Photo 4. The point bar (arrow in red) portion of the river segment and its cut bank (in blue) located on the sides of Barangays Paclolo and Purnaga, respectively. The photo also shows the portion of the riverbank that is being utilized for planting crops and pasture for animals.

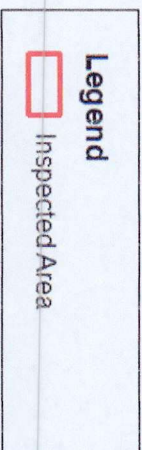
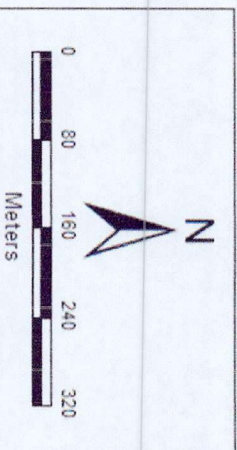


Photo 5. Observed stockpiles of sand and gravel located on the riverbank's northern portion.

ANNEX B – Location Map



Caguray River
 Barangays Paclolo and Purnaga
 Municipality of Magsaysay
 Occidental Mindoro





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Community Environment and Natural Resources Office

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AUG 17 2022

LAILA M. AGNES

Punong Barangay

Paclolo, Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro

Dear **PB Agnes**:

Isang maka-**KALIKASANG** pagbati po sa inyo!

This is in relation to your letter complaint dated 04 July 2022 received by this Office and likewise requesting for a site assessment of a section of Caguray River near your barangay regarding the alleged dumping of aggregates along the said river.

That based on the result of the field investigation conducted by the technical personnel of this Office on July 11 & 13, 2022, it was reported/confirmed that Ms. Vilma Atienza and Mr. Rolando Balbino initiated the dumping of aggregates that came from a nearby road construction project. However, the materials were piled-up *along the existing riverbank*, on a titled lot/property, and not within the active channel of the river. In which they were already advised to refrain from their activities that may result to flooding in the nearby area.

It was accordingly further observed that the heavily silted portion of the river and river flow direction are to the areas covered by Barangay Paclolo, resulting in a relatively shallow channel that is prone to extensive river overflows/flooding, particularly during the rainy season. That rivers naturally divert their course mainly driven by the combination of bank erosion and river deposition over time. Significant changes to channel flow may not occur as long as the current state of the river and its banks are not disturbed (i.e., no stockpiling or dumping of aggregates *within* the active river course and intentional extraction/quarrying of aggregates along the riverbanks).

In view thereof, the local government of Paclolo is therefore advised to closely monitor the said activity, as well as any other activities near the river to ensure that the present stability of Caguray River is maintained.

Thank you for your concern in the protection of the environment and hoping we have addressed your concern and had provided you with the necessary information for your reference.

Very truly yours,

EFREN L. DELOS REYES
CENR Officer

for

Cc: **The Regional Executive Director**
DENR MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director
MGB MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The PENR Officer
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

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AUG 17 2022

LUCIANO V. DECENA

Punong Barangay
Purnaga, Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro

Dear **PB Decena**:

Isang maka-**KALIKASANG** pagbati po sa inyo!

This has reference to the complaint received by this Office regarding the alleged dumping of aggregates along a segment of Caguray River in Barangay Purnaga, Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro.

That based on the result of the field investigation conducted by the technical personnel of this Office on July 11 & 13, 2022, it was reported that Ms. Vilma Atienza and Mr. Rolando Albino allowed the dumping of aggregates that came from a nearby road construction project. However, these materials were piled-up along the existing riverbank, on a titled lot/property, and not within the active channel of the river. It was also accordingly observed during the site assessment that portions of the said riverbank were utilized by river quarry operators and private contractors to stockpile sand and gravel deposits.

Please be informed that any activities that might disturb/affect the current condition or state of the river is prohibited i.e., stockpiling or dumping of aggregates *within* the active river course and intentional extraction/quarrying of aggregates along the riverbanks.

In view thereof, the local government of Purnaga is therefore advised to closely monitor the said activity, as well as any other activities near the river to ensure that the present stability of Caguray River is maintained.

Thank you for your usual support and we are hoping for your cooperation in protecting and conserving the environment and natural resources.

Very truly yours,

EFREN L. DELOS REYES
CENR Officer

Cc: **The Regional Executive Director**
DENR MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director
MGB MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The PENR Officer
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

Albino 8/24/22



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Community Environment and Natural Resources Office

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AUG 17 2022

VILMA ATIENZA
Barangay Purnaga
Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro

Dear **Ma'am**:

Isang maka-**KALIKASANG** pagbati po sa inyo!

This has reference to the complaint received by this Office that you allegedly allowed the dumping of aggregates along a segment of Caguray River in Barangay Purnaga, Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro.

That based on the result of the field investigation conducted by the technical personnel of this Office on July 11 & 13, 2022, it was reported that you allow the dumping of aggregates that came from a nearby road construction project. However, these materials were piled-up along the existing riverbank, on a titled lot/property, and not within the active channel of the river. It was also accordingly observed during the site assessment that portions of the said riverbank were already utilized by river quarry operators and private contractors to stockpile sand and gravel deposits.

Please be informed that any activities that might disturb/affect the current condition or state of the river is prohibited i.e., stockpiling or dumping of aggregates *within* the active river course and intentional extraction/quarrying of aggregates along the riverbanks.

In view thereof, you are therefore advised to refrain from conducting such activities and also monitor the same to ensure the overall stability of Caguray River.

Hoping for your cooperation and compliance.

Very truly yours,

EFREN L. DELOS REYES
CENR Officer

grr

cc: **The Regional Executive Director**
DENR MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director
MGB MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The PENR Officer
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

Abaymud 8/24/22



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AUG 17 2022

ROLANDO BALBINO
Barangay Purnaga
Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro

Dear Sir:

Isang maka-KALIKASANG pagbati po sa inyo!

This has reference to the complaint received by this Office that you allegedly allowed the dumping of aggregates along a segment of Caguray River in Barangay Purnaga, Magsaysay, Occidental Mindoro.

That based on the result of the field investigation conducted by the technical personnel of this Office on July 11 & 13, 2022, it was reported that you allow the dumping of aggregates that came from a nearby road construction project. However, these materials were piled-up along the existing riverbank, on a titled lot/property, and not within the active channel of the river. It was also accordingly observed during the site assessment that portions of the said riverbank were already utilized by river quarry operators and private contractors to stockpile sand and gravel deposits.

Please be informed that any activities that might disturb/affect the current condition or state of the river is prohibited i.e., stockpiling or dumping of aggregates *within* the active river course and intentional extraction/quarrying of aggregates along the riverbanks.

In view thereof, you are therefore advised to refrain from conducting such activities and also monitor the same to ensure the overall stability of Caguray River.

Hoping for your cooperation and compliance.

Very truly yours,

EFREN L. DELOS REYES
CENR Officer

cc: **The Regional Executive Director**
DENR MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The Regional Director
MGB MIMAROPA Region
Ermita, Manila

The PENR Officer
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

Adyngma 8/24/22