



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Environment and Natural Resources  
**PENRO Marinduque**

November 20, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR :** The OIC, Regional Executive Director  
DENR MIMAROPA Region

**THRU :** The OIC, Assistant Regional Director  
for Technical Services

**FROM :** The OIC, PENR Officer

**SUBJECT :** **REPORT ON THE CONDUCTED PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON  
THE PROTECTED AREA SUITABILITY ASSESSMENT IN THE  
PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE UNDER THE VERDE ISLAND  
PASSAGE (VIP PASA MARINDUQUE)**

DENR MIMAROPA  
RECORDS SECTION  
**RECEIVED**  
DEC 04 2023

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BY: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted is the report on the conducted Public Consultation in completion of the activities under the Protected Area Suitability Assessment (PASA) in the Province of Marinduque.

Please be informed that the Public Consultation was conducted last year, dated September 27, 2022, within the Province of Marinduque as the pilot province for the conduct of PASA for Verde Island Passage. The Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) facilitated a 4-day activity which also include the orientation and Key Informant Interview (KII) that lasted up to September 30, 2022. The Public Consultation was participated by various stakeholders such as national government agencies (NGAs), non-government organizations (NGOs) and local government units (LGUs). Several issues raised by the participants are the effects of the establishment of the protected area on the marine area of the province, as well as the challenges that will be encountered during its establishment were responded appropriately.

For record and information.


  
**IMELDA M. DIAZ**



November 17, 2023

**MEMORANDUM**

**FOR** : **The OIC, PENR Officer**

**THRU** : **The Chief, Technical Services Division** 

**FROM** : **The Chief, Conservation and Development Section**  
**The Forest Technician 1**

**SUBJECT** : **REPORT ON THE CONDUCTED PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON THE PROTECTED AREA SUITABILITY ASSESSMENT IN THE PROVINCE OF MARINDUQUE UNDER THE VERDE ISLAND PASSAGE (VIP PASA MARINDUQUE)**

In compliance with the instruction on the completion of the activities under the Protected Area Suitability Assessment in the Province of Marinduque, this Office is hereby submitting the report on the conducted Public Consultation on the Protected Area Suitability Assessment.

On September 28, 2022, the team from Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB) headed by Mr. John Erick B. Avelino, had conducted a public consultation and orientation in the Province of Marinduque, with the assistance of Technical Services Division of DENR-PENRO Marinduque. The activity was attended by various stakeholders, to wit:

1. Representatives of the 83 Coastal Barangays of Marinduque
2. Representatives from the Six Municipalities of Marinduque
3. Department of Interior and Local Government
4. Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR)
5. Department of Public Works and Highways
6. Department of Science and Technology
7. Philippine National Police
8. Philippine Coast Guard
9. Maritime Police
10. Provincial Agriculture Office
11. Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
12. Provincial Tourism Office
13. Marinduque State College
14. Kalipunan ng Kababaihan ng Masiga (Municipality of Gasan)
15. Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) – Marinduque Chapter
16. Selected personnel from DENR – PENRO Marinduque (TSD and PAMO)

Public consultation is a process that involves the public in providing their views and feedback on a proposal to consider in the decision-making. To enlighten the attendees on the activity, the objectives of establishing the Verde Island Passage (VIP), steps that will be undertaken, as well as the extent of the VIP Marine Corridor to the Province of Marinduque were discussed. With the aim to provide a better understanding for the stakeholders, EnP Allan D. Marcilla from City Environment and Natural Resources Office of General Santos City, presented the steps undertaken by CENRO General Santos in order to establish the Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape (SBPS), the benefits it provided and the challenges that their organization had to overcome.

With these presentations, some of the representatives from other national government agencies asked their role in the establishment of the marine protected area and its management. Accordingly, other NGAs such as DILG will provide assistance in the coordination with the local government units while DOST can be tapped on the scientifically inclined methods for the implementation. On the other hand, having close coordination with DPWH will provide information/awareness on the project developments along the marine protected areas.

Some comments were also raised by '*Punong Barangays*'. One of their biggest concern is the after effects of the establishment of the marine protected area surrounding the Province of Marinduque. As majority of the residents of the coastal barangay depend on the marine resources, they are hesitant to support the program. For instance, it will be a big problem for the fisher folks if there will be restrictions to almost prohibition of their fishing activities. Moreover, convincing the community that shared benefits of the Verde Island Passage will be equally distributed to them is quite difficult. Hence, this will be one of the challenges that the implementers will have to face during the establishment.

On the other hand, non-government organizations such as the Kalipunan ng Kababaihan ng Masiga(Municipality of Gasan) and Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) – Marinduque Chapter were grateful that the Province of Marinduque was considered to be a part of the Verde Island Passage Marine Corridor. Accordingly, the marine resources on the province will be protected and will have the chance to replenish if appropriate measures and regulation will be properly implemented for its protection and conservation.

After the orientation, the team composed of BMB personnel, DENR MIMAROPA Regional Office selected staff and selected PASA Team Members from DENR-PENRO Marinduque conducted the Key Informant Interview. It was also agreed that since there are representatives from coastal barangays who were not able to attend the activity, the PASA Team of DENR – PENRO Marinduque will undertake KII down to barangay levels. The youth sector represented by Sangguniang Kabataan President, as well as the president of Senior Citizens' Associations will also partake in the activity. The public consultation resulted with a positive result and raw data from the stakeholders were partially drawn. These data were used to accomplished the PASA Forms that are necessary for the assessment and evaluation of the proposed protected area.

For information and record.

MARIA ELENA ALPARAÑAQUE



CORAZON R. PELAEZ





Mr. Pablo Delos Reyes, Jr. and Mr. John Erick Avelino, both from Biodiversity Management Bureau (BMB), giving lectures for the enlightenment of the future stakeholders of VIP in the Province of Marinduque



Representatives from various coastal barangays (clockwise: LGU Maniwaya – Santa Cruz, LGU Libtangan - Gasan, LGU Buyabod – Santa Cruz and LGU Caganhao – Boac) raising their concerns during public consultation for VIP establishment



Mr. Eric Matining from DILG Marinduque (left) and Mr. Melvin Vitto from MENRO Buenavista sharing their opinions on the conduct of PASA for VIP and in the implementation of regulations on the proposed protected area