

Republic of the Philippines

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office

MIMAROPA Region

18 JAM 2023

Bgy. Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan

E-mail: penropalawan@denr.gov.ph Telfax No. (048) 433-5638 / (048) 433-5638

I INCOMING

DENS MIMAROPA

OUTGOING DATS NO

January 09, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR

DEDTS

The Regional Executive Director

DENR MIMAROPA

1515 DENR By the Bay Bldg., Roxas Boulevard,

Barangay 668, Ermita Manila

THRU

The OIC, Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services

FROM

The Provincial Environment and

Natural Resources

SUBJECT

.

REPORT ON MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION

ACTIVITIES WITHIN PUERTO PRINCESA CITY CY 2022

Respectfully forwarded is the memorandum dated December 14, 2022 from CENRO Puerto Princesa City along with the report of the Conservation and Development Section (CDS) dated December 13, 2022 re above subject. This is our Means of Verification (MOV) for target activities of Marine Turtle Conservation within Puerto Princesa for cy 2022.

Attached are photo documentation of the activity

For your information and record.

"For the PENRO"

elan. RONIE B. GANDEZA

DMO IV/OIC-CHIEF TSD

n Charge Office of the PENR





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

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA

South National Highway, Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan E-mail: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

December 14, 2022

DENR PENRO

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Officer

Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

FROM

The OIC - Community Environment

and Natural Resources Officer Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

SUBJECT

REPORT ON MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION

ACTIVITIES WITHIN PUERTO PRINCESA CITY CY 2022

Forwarded is memorandum dated December 13, 2022 of the Conservation and Development Section (CDS) regarding the Marine Turtle Conservation activities within Puerto Princesa City CY 2022. Please be informed that the CDS personnel conducted the following activities:

- 1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Activity on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas;
- 2. Monitoring of Marine Turtle Conservation within West Coast of Puerto Princesa City Barangays Bacungan, Simpokan, Bagong-bayan, and Napsan, Puerto Princesa City;
- 3. Distribution of Available CEPA materials;
- 4. Retrieval and Disposal of One (1) Dead Green Sea Turtle (Chelonia Mydas) in So. Barimbing, Barangay San Manuel, Puerto Princesa City; and
- 5. Conduct of Tagging and Releasing of Marine Turtle

For information and record.

PEDRO A.

DENR MIMAROPA REGION RTO PRINCESA



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

COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE PUERTO PRINCESA

South National Highway, Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City, Palawan E-mail: cenropuertoprincesa@denr.gov.ph

December 13, 2022

MEMORANDUM

FOR

The OIC - Community Environment

and Natural Resources Officer Sta. Monica, Puerto Princesa City

FROM

The Conservation and Development Section (CDS)

SUBJECT

REPORT ON MARINE TURTLE CONSERVATION

ACTIVITIES WITHIN PUERTO PRINCESA CITY CY 2022

The Conservation and Development Section of CENRO Puerto Princesa has undertaken activities in support to the Marine Turtle Conservation Within Puerto Princesa City. The undersigned personnel conducted the following activities for CY 2022:

1. Communication, Education and Public Awareness (CEPA) Activity on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas

As part of the CEPA Activity of the Section, an Orientation on Marine Conservation was conducted at the Session Hall of Barangay Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City on May 24, 2022. The activity was participated by the LGU Bacungan headed by Barangay Chairperson, Gina Valdestamon.

During the said activity, the undersigned ECOMS I Arlene B. Basaya briefly presented DENR information which includes mission and vision, program & projects as well as the DENR officials/heads from the Central Office, Regional Office down to the PENROs and CENROs in Palawan citing also the areas of responsibility (AOR) of each officials. Also, presented the activities, services and program of CENRO Puerto Princesa such as National Greening Programs (NGP), issuances and processing of land titling, tenurial instruments within forestland, monitoring and enforcement activities and established checkpoints within the jurisdiction of CENRO Puerto Princesa, among others. The undersigned, Forester Jessie M. Escandalio discussed the two (2) major events for the month of May – Month of the Ocean and International Day for Biological Diversity.

For the orientation on Marine Turtle Conservation, the undersigned, Sr. EMS/Chief, CDS Ma. Vivian O. Soriano discussed information on marine turtle conservation which includes basic biology: information on marine turtles, parts of marine turtles, difference between Pawikan and Pagong, information on the five (5) species of marine turtles in the Philippines, differences according to species, habitat,

body structure, importance of marine turtles, life cycle of marine turtles, and threats to marine turtles. Also discussed in the activity are proper handling, proper identification, measurement, tagging and releasing of marine turtles as well as brief information on hatchery management and hatchling releasing. It was emphasized in the orientation that headstarting—the method of growing hatchling for a few months or years before they are release, is not a conservation practice in the Philippines. It is not recommended because it disrupts the life cycle of the turtle. Therefore, it becomes a threat to marine turtle populations in the country. Additional pointers against headstarting were also explained that include the following: it is illegal to keep threatened species under the Philippine Wildlife Act, hatchlings fail to imprint, and the hatchling are unable to get their important 'lost years' life phase due to loss of infantile frenzy.

Concerns and clarifications on the marine turtle conservation were raised by some participants. CEPA materials such as posters about Green Fins, Marine Turtle Conservation, PD No. 705 - Sec. 77 were provided to the LGU Bacungan for dissemination to the public.

A total of ten (10) females and nine (9) male attended the orientation composed of the Punong Barangay, Barangay Kagawad, Barangay Secretary, Barangay Health Worker, Purok Leader and Barangay Tanod.

2. Monitoring of Marine Turtle Conservation within West Coast of Puerto Princesa City

Prior to the conduct of the monitoring, coordination with the concerned LGU-Barangays were conducted and data/information gathered in relation to the conduct of the activity. Hereunder are the marine turtle nesting sites monitored and visited during the conduct of activity, to wit:

a. So. Talaudyong, Barangay Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City

Two (2) marine turtle nesting incidents were identified during the monitoring in Pakpak-Lauin Sand Beach Resort located at So. Talaudyong, Barangay Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City.

Based on actual interview with Ms. Mary Jane Dalaguit and Ms. Baby Grace Katon, both employees of the resort, according to them the marine turtle nesting incidents happened last month of February and July 2022 which same accordingly hatched/emerged at early in the morning and the hatchlings observed to have greyish color.

Accordingly, the incidents were immediately reported to the LGU-Bacungan through Bantay Pawikan for the conduct of proper releasing and disposition of said hatchlings. The location of the nesting sites per GPS reading have coordinates of 9'58''43"N, 118'39'47"E & 9'58''44"N, 118'39'47"E. The information was recorded purposely for future validation, monitoring and references.

Likewise, one (1) incident also of marine nesting was observed within the Takip-Silim Sand Beach Resort, a private property owned by Mr. Bobby Castro. According to the interview with Mr. Jomar Liaso, caretaker of the resort, the incidents had occurred last March 2022 wherein they found approximately

eighty (80) laid eggs along the foreshore line of the resort. Apparently, due to high risk of the high tide flooding the nest, which will kill the embryos, the eggs were collected and relocated in safer place.

Accordingly, when the eggs hatched, half of the total hatchlings were released back to the sea but the other half were kept and reared in containers (plastic drums) within two (2) months. The hatchlings were feed with chopped fist meats. The said hatchlings were all released back to the sea after two (2) months.

The same situation was manifested during the Orientation on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas conducted on May 24, 2022 describing about headstarting activities wherein engaging in growing marine turtle purposely for ecotourism and additional attraction and activity within the area.

Further, interview was undertaken and found out that the caretaker has no knowledge that what they are doing is not the natural and proper cycle of marine turtle. A dialogue/orientation with the owner regarding on the matter will be undertaken and shall continue the monitoring of marine turtle nesting sites within their areas. The undersigned, Sr. EMS Ma. Vivian O. Soriano provided information on headstarting to the caretaker.

The location of the nesting site per GPS reading have coordinates of 9'58''36"N, 118'39'49"E purposely for future validation and monitoring.

b. City Beach, So. Tagkawayan, Barangay Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City

According to an interview with Mr. Jimmy Bustamante, caretaker of Basyaw Recreational Park found in So. Tagkawayan, there is no recorded and or incidents of marine turtle nesting within their area. The incident of dead turtle found along the shore was after Typhoon Odette.

Per interview with Ms. Norilyn Sibuyan, staff from City Tourism who manages the City Beach Areas, she had witnessed the occurrence of marine turtles nesting within the shoreline in March 2022. They found more or less thirty-six (36) laid eggs which same transferred to a hatchery. Accordingly, the said hatchlings were successfully released in the shore.

Per GPS reading, the location of the nesting site have coordinates of 9'52'10"N'36', 118'36'18"E.

c. Simpokan Marine Turtle Conservation, Barangay Simpokan, Puerto Princesa City

The Simpokan Marine Turtle Conservation is identified as Community-based Sustainable Tourism (CBST) in Barangay Simpokan, Puerto Princesa City wherein some of the staff who regularly manage and oversee the sites were employed by the City Environment and Natural Resources (City ENRO) known as "Bantay Pawikan". There are also three (3) bahay-kubo established for the

Tourist Information Center wherein entrance fees collected from tourists who visited the areas to hang-out and feel relax with the nature.

Currently, two (2) employed personnel from City ENRO who are both females namely: Ms. Dominga Dacquer and Ms. Marilyn Eleazer-Panda are alternately conducting regular monitoring and manning the nesting areas assigned to them and also do regular monitoring to check nesting incidents and natural nest within the shoreline. They were also trained in relocating eggs to a hatchery and monitor the emergence of hatchlings.

According to Ms. Marilyn Eleazer-Panda, as of August 3, 2022 a total of 1,848 hatchlings were released from the period of January to August 2022. The releasing and emerging hatchlings were recorded and report submitted the same to City ENRO together with photographs.

Further, Sr. EMS Ma. Vivian O. Soriano informed them that the office shall provide CEPA materials and will initiate the conduct of orientation on marine turtle conservation for the said organization.

d. Barangay Bagong-bayan, Puerto Princesa City Nest Site Monitoring

Two (2) personnel of Bantay Pawikan were assigned at Barangay Simpokan namely: Mr. Isidro Magura and Mr. Silverio Villawala. Both were employed by City ENRO under Wildlife Division.

According to Kagawad Jerry Dimasu-ay, a total of eighty-six (86) hatchlings were released on August 06, 2022 at So. Bantulinao, Bgy. Simpokan, Puerto Princesa City. In times of nest siting incidents and releasing of hatchlings, they immediately informed the City ENR Office personnel for proper disposition and releasing of same.

e. Barangay Napsan, Puerto Princesa City Nest Site Monitoring

Due to Typhoon Odette, most of the hatchling facility particularly in So. Sto Nino, Bgy. Napsan were destroyed and affected, that resulted to minimal production of eggs and low percentage of hatchlings within this year according to Mr. Edgar Castillo of Bantay Pawikan assigned at So. Santo Nino, Bgy. Napsan, Puerto Princesa City.

The monitoring activities was also participated by ECOMS I Arlene B. Basaya and Park Maintenance Foreman Rogelio G. Abison.

3. Distribution of Available CEPA materials

Available CEPA materials such as poster about Green Fins and Marine Turtle Conservation were provided to the LGU Oficials of Barangay Bacungan, Simpokan, Bagong-bayan and Napsan, Puerto Princesa for dissemination to the public.

9. Retrieval and Disposal of One (1) Dead Green Sea Turtle (Chelonia Mydas) in So. Barimbing, Barangay San Manuel, Puerto Princesa City

On August 19, 2022, the undersigned together with Sr. EMS Ms. Vivian O. Soriano and PMF Rogelio G. Abison responded to the reported incident that one (1) dead Green turtle found in So. Barimbing, Bgy. San Manuel, Puerto Princesa City. The retrieval and disposal activity was jointly conducted this office together with City ENRO personnel headed by Ms. Myla Adriano and the Barangay Tanod of LGU-San Manuel.

The incident was reported by Mr. Edgar Tabang, a warden from MPA Rawis Reef Sactuary and Mr. Ronnie Valiente from City Agriculture relayed and reported the incidents to this office. Based on interview with Mr. Tabang, the said dead turtle was found floating at the sea by the fishermen approximately at 10 AM. It was brought to the shoreline adjacent to the mangrove areas to where all the boats are sheltered and reported it to the LGU Barangay San Manuel.

The turtle measures 100 centimeter in curve carapace length 90 centimeter in curve carapace width and has an estimated weight of 150 kilograms.

With the assistance from the Barangay Tanod, the said dead turtle was successfully brought to the nearby sand beach areas in order to conduct necropsy to determine the cause of death and at the same time for proper disposal. EMS II Myla Adriano of City ENRO facilitated the conduct of necropsy and concluded that there is no internal damages found, except on the external damage seen near nasal and frontal head which allegedly due to the propeller of marine vessel. The dead Green turtle was buried at the sand beach area with coordinates of 9'46'41"N, 118'46'19"E.

10. Conduct of Tagging and Releasing of Marine Turtle

Please be informed that on November 24, 2022, the undersigned personnel participated in the tagging and releasing of one (1) head juvenile Hawksbill Turtle at BM Beach, San Pedro. Puerto Princesa City. The office together with LAMAVE and PENRO CDS personnel performed the measurement, tagging and assisted in the releasing of the said marine turtle.

Per interview with the representative from LAMAVE, the Hawksbill turtle was rescued on August 13, 2022 at Honda Bay, Barangay Sta. Lourdes, Puerto Princesa City. Accordingly, a fisherman from Honda Bay found the marine turtle floating on the surface of the water, which was 1 to 2 kilometers away from the shore, having problem with its buoyancy. The LAMAVE team took the marine turtle to its facility to provide treatment for its condition for a month and transferred it later to the Palawan State University—Marine Science Research Center (PSU-MSRC) for a better facility to rehabilitate the marine turtle. The said organization continued to focus on its recovery, providing its necessities, and after three (3) months of rehabilitation, the team observed an improvement to its health and determined that it was ready to be released back into the sea.

After a short briefing, the DENR team together with LAMAVE team headed by Ms. Jessica Labaja proceeded with the conduct of measurement and tagging of the marine turtle. The said turtle was tagged on its right flipper, bearing a tag serial number of PH2136A. Afterward, the representatives from LAMAVE proceeded to the deeper part of the sea to release the marine turtle and observed it for an hour after its release. It was successfully released at around 4:20 in the afternoon.

The activity was witnessed by representatives from LAMAVE, PENRO Palawan and CENRO Puerto Princesa, the Palawan Council for Sustainable Development Staff (PCSDS), the Palawan Wildlife Rescue and Conservation Center (PWRCC) represented by Dr. Glenn G. Rebong, D.V.M., City ENRO, Palawan State University (PSU), Western Philippines University (WPU), and the Department of Agriculture – Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (DA-BFAR).

Attached are photo documentation and accomplished marine turtle tagging data form for ready reference.

For information and record.

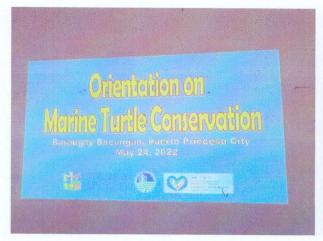
JESSIE M. ZSCANDALIO
Forester XPAWW Unit

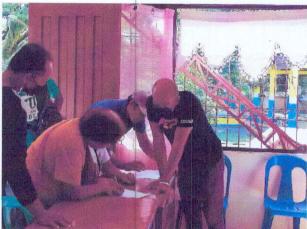
Noted by:

MA. VIVIAN O. SORIANO Sr. EMS/Chief, CDS

PHOTO DOCUMENTATIONS

CEPA Activity on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas













Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of orientation on marine turtle conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders held at Session Hall, Bgy. Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City on May 24, 2022.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATIONS

CEPA Activity on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas













Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of orientation on marine turtle conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders held at Session Hall, Bgy. Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City on May 24, 2022.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATIONS

CEPA Activity on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas













Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of orientation on marine turtle conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders held at Session Hall, Bgy. Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City on May 24, 2022.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION

CEPA Activity on Marine Turtle Conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders particularly within the coastal areas





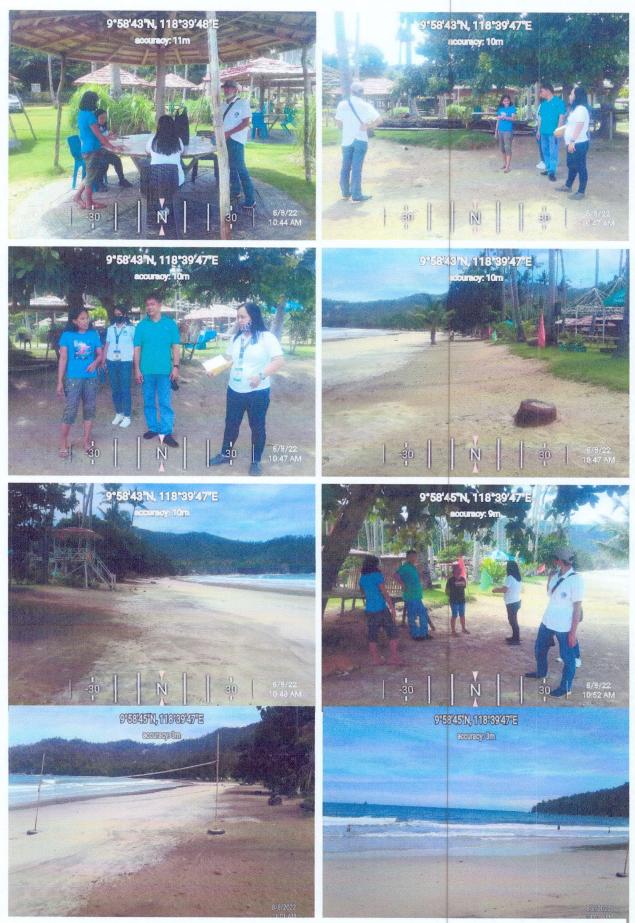




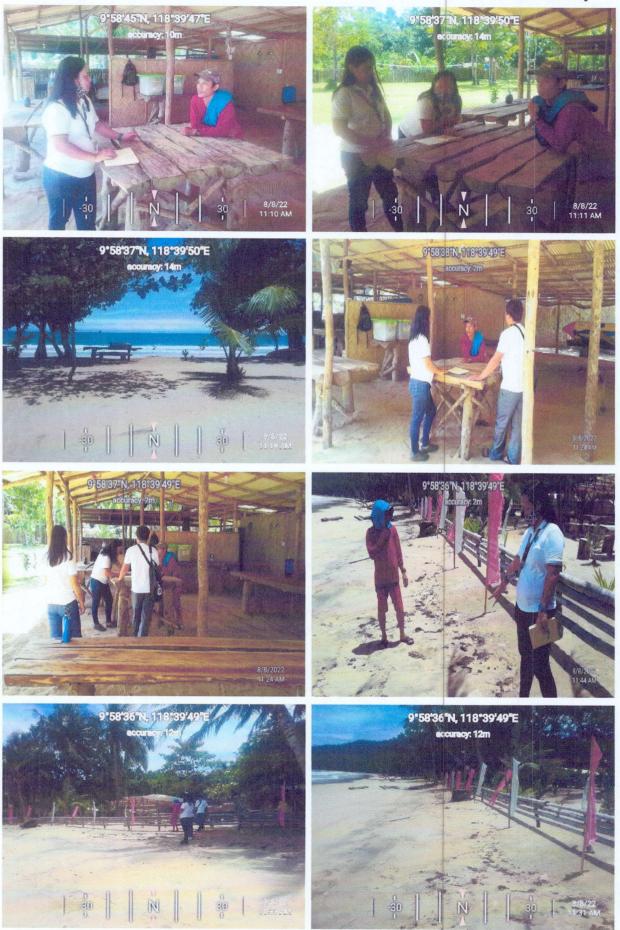




Geotagged photos taken during the conduct of orientation on marine turtle conservation with LGU Bacungan Officials, Barangay Tanod and Purok Leaders held at Session Hall, Bgy. Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City on May 24, 2022 and distribution of CEPA materials.



Geotagged photos showing the conduct of marine turtle nest monitoring at Pakpak-Lauin Sand Beach Resort located at So. Talaudyong, Barangay Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City



Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of marine turtle nest monitoring at Takip Silim Private Resort located at So. Talaudyong, Bgy. Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City.



Geotagged photos showing the conduct of marine turtle nest monitoring and some interviews with the personnel and caretaker of Basyaw Recreational Park and City Tourism at City Beach, So. Tagkawayan, Barangay Bacungan, Puerto Princesa City.



Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of marine turtle nest monitoring at CBST-Simpokan Marine Turtle Conservation and at the same time distribution of CEPA posters/materials.



Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of interview with Kagawad Jerry Dimasu-ay of Barangay Bagong-bayan regarding on their Marine Turtle Conservation Activity and at the

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION Retrieval and Disposal of One (1) Dead Green Sea Turtle in Barangay San Manuel















Geo-tagged photos showing the conduct of interview with one of the Bantay Pawikan Mr. Edgar Castillo of So Sto. Nino, Bgy. Napsan regarding on the status of marine turtle conservation activity within their area, and at the same time distribution of CEPA posters/materials to Punong Barangay Hon. Jerry Acosta.

PHOTO DOCUMENTATION Retrieval and Disposal of One (1) Dead Green Sea Turtle in Barangay San Manuel



PHOTO DOCUMENTATION
Retrieval and Disposal of One (1) Dead Green Sea Turtle in Barangay San Manuel



PHOTO DOCUMENTATION Retrieval and Disposal of One (1) Dead Green Sea Turtle in Barangay San Manuel



PHOTO DOCUMENTATION Conduct of Tagging and Releasing of Marine Turtle





The LAMAVE team during the briefing





The DENR team during the measurement and tagging of the juvenile Hawksbill turtle

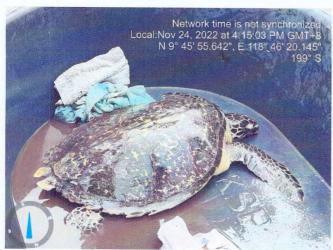
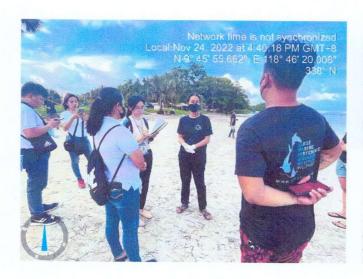


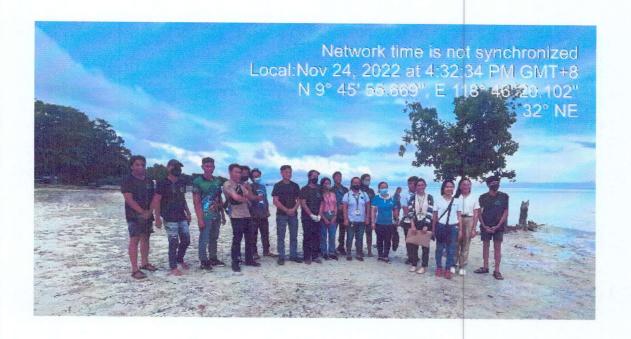


PHOTO DOCUMENTATION Conduct of Tagging and Releasing of Marine Turtle





The DENR team during the interview with LAMAVE staff



Group photo of the team composed of representatives from LAMAVE, DENR, PCSDS, PWRCC, PSU-MSRC, WPU, DA-BFAR and City ENRO

MT01 MARINE TURTLE TAGGING DATA FORM

1. Species (refer to the species identification key)

[] green turtle [] hawksbill [] olive ridley	loggerhead leat	herback
2.Sex of marine turtle: [] male [] female How was s	sex determined? undetermined - Ju	venile
3. Date of capture: August 13, 1921 Geographical coo	ordinates:	
4. Place of capture: Honda bay, PIC Longitude N	0 , "	
5. Method of capture (e.g., caught in net, trapped in fish corral, hook and	line): Tound #loating	
6. Activity of turtle before capture: [] swimming	[] mating	
[] feeding	[] nesting	
7. Curved Carapace Length (CCL) in cm: 40 CM		
8. Curved Carapace Width (CCW) in cm:		
9. WITH TAG(S), record serial number of tag(s) attached to the flippers: Left tag: Right tag:	J/A	
10.NEW TAG(S) APPLIED, record serial numbers of new tag(s):		
Left tag: Right tag: P	H 2134 A	(34
11.Date of tagging: November 24, 2012		
12.Date of release: November 24, 2022		
13. Place of release: BM Beach, barangay San Itedro.	. Puerto Princesa City	
14.Observations (NOTE: fibropapillomas, propeller cuts, mutations, hook	cingestion, etc.):	
15.Details of person(s) who reported, caught, captured, turned-over, doi Name(s): Large Marine Verkbrakes Recearch (nchitake Address(es): Puerto Wintera City		
Contact details (phone, email): 0917 149 8470		
16.Details of DENR personnel responsible for tagging and releasing the m	narine turtle:	
Name(s): Ma. Visian soriano, Domi Patricia Decena	, Julius Landrito	
Position(s): Scrior ELOMS. CAMEMP Extension officer	The state of the s	
Field office: CENRO PPC , PENRO - COS ,	PENINO - CRI - SINIO	
INSTRUCTIONS:	SUBMIT FORM TO:	
Use one form per marine turtle	Wildlife Resources Division	
•Apply tags when there are no tags or if only one tag is	Biodiversity Management Bureau	
attached to the turtle	Department of Environment and Natura	
Do not remove existing tags from the flinners	Ninoy Aquino Parks and Wildlife Center	

- •Do not re-tag marine turtles unless the existing tags are unreadable or about to fall off from the flipper
- •Photograph the turtle (top view) and the tags attached

North Avenue, Diliman Quezon City, Metro Manila Telephone Number: (02) 9246031-35, loc. 223 E-mail: bmb@bmb.gov.ph and wrd@bmb.gov.ph