



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

JUN 22 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA Region
1515 DENR by the Bay Bldg., Roxas Blvd.,
Brgy.668, Ermita, Manila

THRU : The Assistant Regional Director for Management Services

The Assistant Regional Director for Technical Services

FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer

SUBJECT : REQUEST FOR FUNDS INTENDED FOR THE HIRING OF
ADDITIONAL FOREST GUARDS IN OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

This is in relation to the letter submitted by Hon. Leody F. Tarriela to the Office of the Secretary and to the Memorandum dated May 18, 2023 from the OIC, Director of Financial and Management Service Imelda R. Dela Cruz regarding the above-cited subject. We are submitting the Work and Financial Plan (WFP) corresponding to the requested fund of Php. 5,000,000.00 that will cover hiring of additional Forest Protection Officers (FPOs), Park Attendants, Park Rangers, Law Enforcement Officers (LEO), Procurement of Laptops and Geo-tagging equipment in support to the implementation of LAWIN Biodiversity Monitoring System.

For your information, evaluation and further instruction.


ERNESTO E. TAÑADA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
FY 2023 Physical and Financial Plan
(in Thousand Pesos)

Agency/Bureau: DENR PENRO OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

PROGRAM /ACTIVITY /PROJECT	Unit Cost	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	REGIONAL OFFICE/ PROVINCE/ MUNICIPALITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT FY 2022		FY 2023 Physical Performance/Targets				TOTAL TARGET	FY 2023 Financial Performance/ Targets				TOTAL BUDGET	
				Physical	Financial	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		Expense Class	Q1	Q2	Q3		Q4
						Estimate	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate			Estimate	Estimate	Estimate		Estimate
Natural Resources Management Arrangement/ Agreement and Permit Issuance																
Permit issuance and monitoring of Forest and Forest Resource Use																
MENU 10. Sustainable Implementation of LAWIN Forest and Biodiversity Protection System																
10.1 Support to full operationalization of LAWIN System			Occidental Mindoro							95	MOOE			2,673	2,327	5,000
a. Hiring of FPOs	8,500/month	FPO hired (no.)						27	27	27	50211990.00			688	689	1,377
b. Hiring of Park Attendants in support to LAWIN and other forest protection activities within the PA	9,000/month	Park Attendant hired (no.)						30	30	30	50211990.00			810	810	1,620
c. Hiring of Park rangers in support to LAWIN and other forest protection activities within the PA	15,000/month	Park Ranger hired (no.)						15	15	15	50211990.00			675	675	1,350
d.Hiring of Law Enforcement Officer in support to LAWIN and other forest protection activities within the PA	25,439/month	Law Enforcement Officer (LEO) hired (no.)						2	2	2	50211990.00			153	153	306
e. Purchased of Laptop in support to LAWIN and other Forest Protection activities	47,000/ unit	Laptop purchased (no.)						1		1	50203210.03			47		47
f. Purchased of gadgets in support to SMART BMS and other forest protection in activities within the PA	15,000/ unit	Geo-tagging equipment purchased (no.)						20		20	50203210.03			300		300

Prepared and submitted by:

Recommending Approval:

Approved:

ALVIN T. SANICO
OIC, Planning Officer

CELSO B. ALMAZAN
OIC, Technical Services Division

ENRIQUE E. TANADA
OIC, PENRO Officer

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES
PROVINCIAL ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE
FY 2023 Physical and Financial Plan
(In Thousand Pesos)

Agency/Bureau: DENR PENRO OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

PROGRAM /ACTIVITY /PROJECT	Unit Cost	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	REGIONAL OFFICE/ PROVINCE/ MUNICIPALITY	ACCOMPLISHMENT FY 2022		FY 2023 Physical Performance/Targets							TOTAL TARGET	FY 2023 Financial Performance/ Targets																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																												
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Prepared and submitted by:

Recommending Approval:

Approved:

ALVIN E. SANICO
OIC, Planning Officer

CELSO B. ALMAZAN
OIC, Technical Services Division

ERNESTO E. TANAÑA
OIC, PENR Officer



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

MAY 16 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR MIMAROPA Region
1515 DENR By the Bay Building, Roxas Boulevard,
Barangay 668, Ermita, Manila

THRU : The ARD for Technical Services

FROM : The OIC, PENR Officer

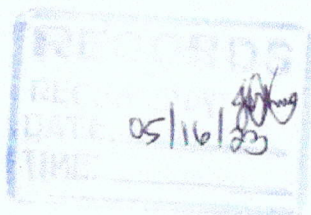
SUBJECT : **TAMARAW COUNT 2023 PRELIMINARY REPORT**

Forwarded is the memorandum dated May 09, 2023 of TCP Coordinator together with other pertinent documents regarding Tamaraw Count 2023. Based on the preliminary report submitted by the TCP two (2) methodologies was employed in this year's tamaraw count, the Intensive Concentrated Count-Simultaneous Multi-Vantage Point Count (ICC-SMVPC) or the traditional counting methodology and Double Observer Count (DDC) method.

As per consolidation workshop held on April 26, 2023, the estimated account of tamaraw for 2023 was **Three Hundred Twenty-Five (325)**. Numerous improvements were developed in this year's count method to lessen errors biases and come up with the closest estimate of the true number of tamaraw in Mounts Iglit-Baco Natural Park (MIBNP). Likewise, various factors were also presented in the aforementioned preliminary report that influenced the decline in the population of tamaraw.

For information and record


ERNESTO E. TAÑADA



TSD-CDS5/11/2023

Copy Furnished:

1. Planning Section
2. File

So. Pag-asa, Brgy. Payompon, Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro
Email: penroccmn@denr.gov.ph



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
TAMARAW CONSERVATION PROGRAM

May 09, 2023

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The OIC, PENR Officer
Mamburao, Occidental Mindoro

FROM : The TCP Coordinator
San Jose, Occidental Mindoro

SUBJECT : **TAMARAW COUNT 2023 PRILIMINARY REPORT**

The tamaraw is a small hoofed mammal belonging to the family Bovidae. It is endemic to the island of Mindoro in the Philippines. The tamaraw was originally found all over Mindoro, from sea level up to the mountains (2000 meters above sea level), but because of human habitation, hunting, and logging, it is now restricted to only a few remote grassy plains.

Bubalus mindorensis Heude is the only bovid native to the Philippines and is the country's largest native animal (Rabor, 1977). It is also known as the **Mindoro dwarf buffalo** (Hedges *et al.*, 2008). It was first described by Huede in 1888 in Calapan, Oriental, Mindoro.

The species is currently classified as Critically Endangered under DENR Administrative Order No. 2004-15 and on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Life span of tamaraw is about 20-25 years (Walker, *et. al.*, 1964).

In partial fulfillment of the TCP target under DENR Wildlife Resources Conservation Subprogram – Protection and Conservation of Wildlife – 2. Tamaraw – population survey conducted and for the purpose of compliance for the Means of Verification (MOV) of the said activity, submitted is the preliminary report on the conduct of Tamaraw Count 2023 in Mts. Iglit-Baco Natural Park on April 16 to April 24, 2023. To follow is the detailed technical report, Complete Staff Work (CSW), and data analysis.

Two (2) methodologies was employed in this year's tamaraw count, the Intensive Concentrated Count – Simultaneous Multi-Vantage Point Count (ICC-SMVPC) or the traditional counting methodology, and the Double Observer Count (DDC) method.

Results of the traditional counting method will be subjected to two (2) data treatment, the traditional consolidation data processing which results are presented in this report, and the data analysis using statistical tool to determine the range of observed tamaraws during the counting process, that will be presented in the technical report.

Data analysis of DDC is being undertaken by D'Aboville Foundation and Kristoff Bonnenfant, a large mammal monitoring expert that employs tested algorithms in data analysis of this year's count results.

RECORDS	
RECEIVED	<i>[Signature]</i>
DATE: 05/11	
RELEASED BY	
DATE: _____	TIME: _____

Asipit Road, Brgy. San Roque I, San Jose, Occidental Mindoro 5100
E-mail Address: tamarawconservationprogram.mdo@gmail.com



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TAMARAW CONSERVATION PROGRAM

For 2023 Tamaraw count, aside from TCP and MIBNP-PAMO, participants are from partner NGOs (DAF and MBCFi), LGUs (ENRO Oriental Mindoro), and other DENR Offices (PENRO Occidental Mindoro, Biodiversity Corridor Project, and Apo Reef Natural Park).

Numerous improvements were developed in this year's count method to build confidence for the data gathered, lessen errors and biases, and come up with the closest estimate of the true number of tamaraws in MIBNP. These improvements are as follows:

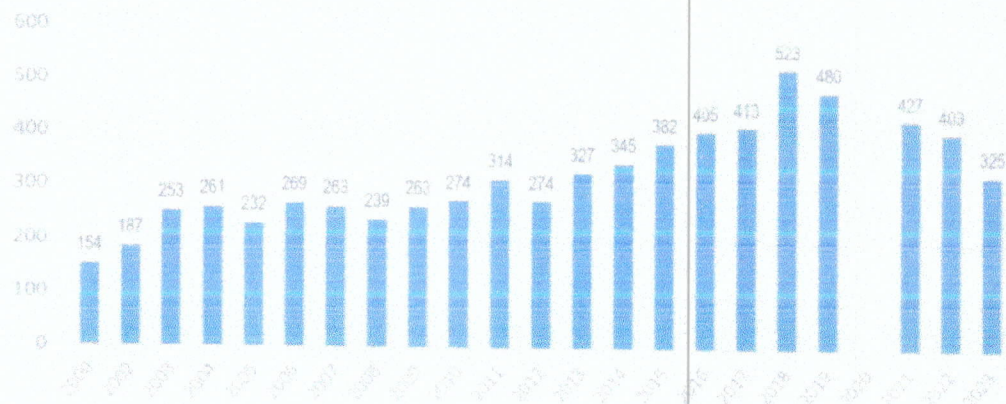
- Improved communication between vantage points. A radio base was erected in Magawang station with the team of PASu Hector Aragon Jr. in constant monitoring of all vantage points. The clear communications during the time of observation helped a lot in elimination of double counting across vantage points. For example, a group of tamaraws seen in Malitwang vantage point that transcended in Loibfu observation area were agreed by both observers to be recorded in Malitwang data sheet and not in Loibfu, ensuring elimination of double observation and recording. This is true and employed across all vantage points.
- Traditional point count usually lasts up to eight (8) sessions. This year, sessions were reduced to five (5) observations to reduce the possibility of accumulation of errors and double observations.
- Trainings and workshops were conducted before the count proper to fully equip assigned personnel in carrying out the activity. Observers and recorders were trained on and off site for observation and data entry.
- Pre-counting briefing and workshop were also conducted involving all participants to explain and discuss the Do's and Don'ts, rules and regulations, schedules, and assignments.
- Meal plans were also prepared per camp to avoid the issue of insufficient provisions.
- The number of participants were significantly reduced this year to about 25%, almost bare minimum to lessen distraction, noises, and congestion.

The activity concluded in the conducted Consolidation Workshop on April 26, 2023 and arrived at the number **Three Hundred Twenty Five (325)** - total estimated tamaraw count for 2023 in MIBNP. The figure less than 20% of the estimated count last year, April 2022. Below is the trend in the population of tamaraw in MIBNP from 2000 to 2023.



Republic of the Philippines
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MIMAROPA Region
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
TAMARAW CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Estimated Tamaraw Population in MIBNP 2000-2023
using ICC-SVIC Method



Decline in the population can be attributed to numerous factors, some of which are:

- Changes in the methodology- Refinement and improvement in the traditional counting methodology was applied in this year's counting to have a more reliable data that the estimated outcomes are close to the true number of tamaraws in MIBNP.
- Burning Phase-out plan - This year, so as to observe the burning phase-out plan, only 40% of observation areas were burned. This limits the observation of animals since tall cogon and talahib grasses in unburned observation areas somehow hindered sightings of tamaraws.
- Encroachment and habitat loss - This year, kaingins in and around the tamaraw core habitat, strict protection zone, and agreed no hunting zone of 1,600 has were scattered, driving the tamaraws into the center of the habitat.
- Intensified hunting activities – Traps still litter the periphery of the strict protection zone and sometimes within the SPZ.
- Weather – During the counting, weather was constantly cloudy; gloomy and raining. This hampers the observation and somehow changes feeding behavior of the tamaraws. Usually, tamaraw feeds in early morning and late afternoon, which is why the observation time were set at these hours. During the counting, it was always gloomy in the morning and raining in the afternoon, thus the tamaraws were only seen feeding at high noon, which were never recorded and entered in the data sheets since it was not during the observation time.
- Carrying Capacity – As stipulated in the Tamaraw Count 2022 Technical Report, the tamaraw core habitat in MIBNP have reached its carrying capacity as implied by obvious indications such as sharp drop in population, lesser %



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TAMARAW CONSERVATION PROGRAM

recruitment by birth, increased bull fighting and mortality, among others. Immediate expansion of the core habitat is eminent.

- Change in Management of the Core Habitat – starting 2021, the management of the core habitat was tasked to the MIBNP Protected Area Management Office. TCP were the one doing patrolling, monitoring and protection activities in the core habitat together with select MIBNP PAMO staff until 2021. The change in management in the core habitat might have some implications in the continuous decrease in populations for a number of reasons.

These factors will be discussed in detail in the technical report being prepared and later to be submitted. Other factors, recommendations, and immediate actions, issues and concerns, methodologies and analysis will also be included in the said report.

Attached is the traditional consolidation report and photos for your references.

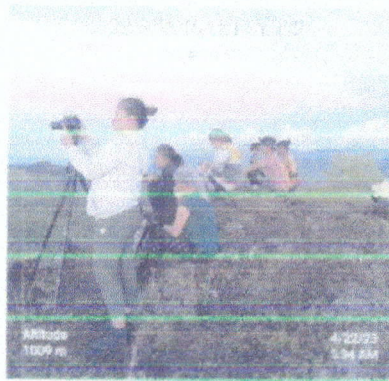
For your information and record.


NEIL ANTHONY DEL MUNDO





Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
MIMAROPA Region
Provincial Environment and Natural Resources Office
TAMARAW CONSERVATION PROGRAM



CONSOLIDATED DATA ON TAMARAW SIGHTINGS, YEAR 2023

STATION NO. & AREA	TOTAL NUMBER SIGHTED										POSSIBLE DOUBLE MULTIPLE COUNTS										ACTUAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SIGHTED										Grand Total																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																							
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M = Male, F = Female, U = Unidentified

Consolidated and Verified by:


EDUARD B. BATA
Supervising Ranger

Certified Correct:


NEIL ANTHONY A. DEL MUNDO
TCR Coordinator



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel Nos. (632) 929-6626 to 29 - (632) 929-6633 to 35
926-7041 to 43; 929-6252; 929-1669
Website: <http://www.denr.gov.ph> E-mail: web@denr.gov.ph

MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Regional Executive Director
DENR Region IV-B
Roxas Boulevard, Manila

FROM : The OIC - Director
Financial and Management Service

SUBJECT : REQUEST FOR FUNDS INTENDED FOR THE HIRING OF
ADDITIONAL FOREST GUARDS IN OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

DATE : 18 May 2023

DENR MIMAROPA RECORDS SECTION RECEIVED	
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BY: _____	DATE NO. _____
TIME: _____	h/2 PM

This refers to the letter of Honorable Congressman Leody "Odie" F. Tarriela, Lone District of Occidental Mindoro dated 02 September 2022 requesting funds for the hiring of Forest Protection Officers (FPOs) in the amount of **Five Million Pesos (P5,000,000.00)**.

The additional Forest Guards will be assigned in Mt. Iglit-Baco National Park to help in the protection of the remaining population of the endangered Philippine Tamaraws against illegal poaching and to ensure the protection of the flora and fauna in Occidental Mindoro.

In view of the above, kindly submit the corresponding Work and Financial Plan (WFP) to the Policy and Planning Service (PPS), for their evaluation and recommendation.


IMELDA R. DELA CRUZ

The Undersecretary
Finance, Information Systems and Climate Change

The Undersecretary
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

The OIC - Director
Policy and Planning Service

06/05/2023 09:52



Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Leody "Odie" F. Tarriela
Representative
Lana District, Occidental Mindoro

COMMITTEES
VICE CHAIRPERSON:
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
LAND USE
MEMBER FOR THE MAJORITY:
Ways and Means
Economic Affairs
Public Works and Highways
Public Accounts
Transportation
Energy
Banks and Financial Intermediaries
Indigenous Cultural Communities
Labor and Employment
Local Government
Bases Conversion

September 2, 2022

MARIA ANTONIA "TONI" YULO-LOYZAGA
The Secretary
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
DENR Building, Visayas Avenue, Vasra,
Quezon City

Subject: Request for Hiring of Additional Forest Guards for Occidental Mindoro

Dear Secretary Yulo-Loyzaga,

Let me first express again my sincerest congratulations on your very well-deserved appointment as DENR Secretary. You may rest assured that this Representation shall provide my full and utmost support to your programs and projects for the betterment of our people.

The Province of Occidental Mindoro houses the Mt. Iglit-Baco National Park which is also the home of the last remaining population of *bubalus mindorensis* otherwise known as the Philippine Tamaraw. The population of the mammal has dwindled throughout the years because of poaching. Several measures are being undertaken by local government units (LGUs) and private sectoral groups to help increase its population.

One of the main challenges for our forest guards is the lack of sufficient funding and manpower. While they have ensured that the last remaining population is properly guarded, instances of poaching is still being reported especially during the pandemic.

To help the survival of our Philippine Tamaraw, as well as to ensure the protection of the flora and fauna of Occidental Mindoro, may I respectfully request the provision of additional funding for forest guards in Occidental Mindoro, as follows:

Request	Amount
Additional Funding for Forest Guards To protect the Last Remaining Population of the Philippine Tamaraw and Protected Forests in Occidental Mindoro	Php 5M

May we continue working hand-in-hand to ensure the protection of the flora and fauna of Occidental Mindoro.

Maraming maraming salamat po, Mr. Secretary!

Very truly yours,


REP. LEODY "ODIE" F. TARRIELA

CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE
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Quezon City, Metro Manila
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